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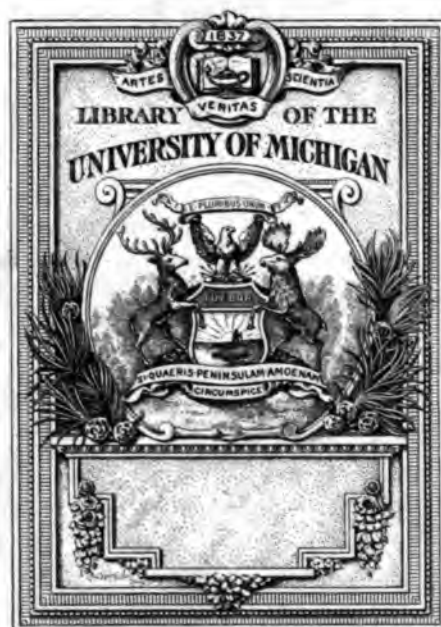
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HISTORICAL AND LITERARY REMAINS  
CONNECTED WITH THE PALATINE COUNTIES OF  
**Lancaster and Chester.**

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THE  
**Rectors of Manchester,**  
AND THE  
**Wardens of the Collegiate Church**  
OF THAT TOWN.

BY THE LATE  
**REV. F. R. RAINES, M.A.,**  
VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.

PART I.

PRINTED FOR THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.  
1885.



PRINTED BY CHARLES E. SINMS,  
MANCHESTER.

## INTRODUCTION.

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THE contents of the present volume are derived from the *MSS.* of the late Canon RAINES, the notes on the early Rectors being from vol. xli. of the Raines' Bequest, and the Lives of the Wardens being from vol. xl.

It is evident that an accurate account of the Wardens was a project that had occupied a large share of the attention of this indefatigable compiler, who justly viewed the College as the spot around which the ecclesiastical history of the district was gathered,—“that noble and useful foundation for learning and propagation of religion in those northern parts” (Strype *Annals*, vol. II. i. p. 515).

Sir William Dugdale might perhaps properly be regarded as the antiquary who supplied the first incitement to the compilation of a continuous history of the College, for he printed a copy of the charter of Henry V. for the collegiation of the parish church. (*Monasticon*, vol. iii. pt. ii. pp. 174–5, 1st ed.)

An investigator of considerable diligence, animated by sentiments arising out of local attachments, arose in the Rev. Richard Hollinworth, Fellow of the College before the civil troubles, and afterwards minister of the town.



His *MS.* called *Mancuniensis*, which has not yet been worthily edited, mainly centres round the Wardens of the College; and it has been the compilation to which subsequent writers have been largely indebted.

An older *MS.* list of the Wardens, comprising also particulars of the founders of the chantry chapels, was also in existence in the town, and more copies than one have been referred to. The original compiler of this list must have had access to authentic papers, and conversed with persons who had preserved some memories of the past. Canon Raines was inclined to attribute one copy of the *MS.*, dated *c.* 1730, to the Rev. Robert Asheton (*Lanc. Chantries*, p. 19; and see p. 14 of this work and other subsequent references). Another small copy, known as Aynscough's *MS.*, was in the hand-writing either of the Rev. Radley Aynscough, M.A., Fellow of Manchester College, 1727, who married a daughter of Dr. Wroe, and who died in 1728, aged 47; or of his son, the Rev. Thomas Aynscough, M.A., Fellow in 1761, who died 1793, aged 74; and one of these clergymen made some additions to it. Another copy of the *MS.*, fuller in detail, was in possession of the Rev. Joshua Brookes, of witty memory, brought down to the date of 1684 or 1686. This may perhaps be identified with a copy which was printed in *Local Gleanings*, 4to., vol. ii. p. 291. Another was in possession of a Mr. Reynolds. Two or three of these *MSS.* were in existence in the time of the Rev. John Greswell, M.A., Master of the Chetham College School about the year 1807, who has quoted them in his

collections for the history of Manchester, and he was perhaps the last person to use them. Canon Raines, who quotes Aynscough's *MS.* occasionally, had never seen the original, but derived the passages from Greswell's *MS.* What appears to be a copy of the original *MS.* occurs in No. 5836 of the additional *MSS.* in the British Museum; and another very indifferent copy was published in the *Manchester City News*, 3 October, 1885.

A very good list of the Wardens, based partly on one of these old *MSS.*, was published in 1773 (8vo, pp. 16) entitled, *An Account of the Wardens of Christ's College Church, Manchester, since the Foundation in 1422, to the present time.* Illustrated with an elegant view of Christ Church. (London: Printed by W. E. And sold by A. and J. Clarke, Booksellers, at the Bible and Crown, Market place, Manchester. MDCCLXXIII.) The similarity of phrases, &c., indicate that the compiler of this list had one of the old *MSS.* before him. The printed list of 1773 was used by the author of the very excellent *Description of Manchester* published in the town 1783, 8vo., said to be drawn up by "a native of the town," who refers to it as "an account printed here of the original foundation of the College, and a succession of Wardens, which was brought down to Warden Wroe." (pp. 23-4.) He further says: "The author had certainly seen good records, and has reported facts in a stile rather pedantic, and too diffuse for our narrative. There are some strictures on his characters, a little heightened with the acrimony of party; but as they throw light on the former

state of the town and its history, we shall endeavour to preserve the order and substance of this account, making such remarks in the course of it as may justify our observations."

Mr. Greswell, in the *MS.* already alluded to, made the Wardens the central figures of his researches. His position at the College gave him facilities for investigation in a wide range of literature; but he never lived to give perfection to his labour. His work, contained in a large and thick folio, brought down to the year 1782, is now at the Chetham Library, and its condition as well as its character are pretty fairly set forth in the Latin motto which he has placed upon the title-page, *Dum lego colligo*. A more finished work might have been looked for from one who was brother to the great scholar, the Rev. W. P. Greswell of Denton. In the year 1808 the compiler endeavoured, but in vain, to persuade Sir Richard Phillips to publish the *MS.*

After Mr. Greswell's death the *MS.* (according to Dr. Hibbert-Ware, vol. i. p. 415) became the property of Mr. Wm. Ford, the Manchester bookseller, who in 1817 proposed to issue it, with notes, to form what was to be an illustrated history of the Church and College; the architectural portion to be undertaken by Mr. John Palmer, and the whole to be on the same scale as Britton's *Architectural Antiquities*. This proposal fell through; and the *MS.* next passed into the hands of Mr. James Midgeley of Rochdale for £50. Dr. Hibbert-Ware mentions another transcript of this collection (vol. i. p. 46), which had been

submitted by Greswell to Dr. T. D. Whitaker, after whose death it was bought by Mr. Thos. Heywood of Swinton Lodge.

When Dr. Hibbert's ambitious *History of the Manchester Foundations* was projected, a transcript of Greswell's *MS.* was placed in his hands ; and a large part of the collection is embodied in that work. The materials, however, were far less complete or useful than Dr. Hibbert had been led to expect, though he speaks favourably of them in his preface as "forming altogether a body of matter far more valuable and comprehensive than any which had been previously collected." He also said afterwards of the copy which he used that he could "scarcely depend upon the accuracy of a single line."

Dr. Hibbert's great work appeared in 1830, in two volumes, much of it being edited by that industrious scholar while resident on the continent. It was dedicated to Dr. Calvert, "Warden or Dean." Its plan is to a large extent that of Greswell. This *History* has been the standard work on the Wardens and their surroundings, and it has always been consulted with pleasure by reason of the pictorial embellishments, and its ample description of the old church. Canon Raines's work largely supplements the notices of the Wardens, adds some names to the list, and corrects several of the inaccuracies.

In the supplementary volume, dated 1848, entitled *The Ancient Parish Church of Manchester and Why it was Collegiated*, Dr. Hibbert-Ware dealt with the history of the lords of the manor and the early Rectors. For this

volume he derived considerable matter from the records in the Chapter-house ; and he expresses his indebtedness to Canon Raines and Dr. Ormerod for numerous contributions.

A work further supplementary to the last-named was announced in 1848 by Mr. Thomas Agnew, the publisher, as ready for publication, under the editorship of Dr. Hibbert-Ware, to contain additions to the history of the Wardens, supplying the deficiencies of the former volumes, and to end with the formation of the bishopric. In the preparation of this supplement, Dr. Hibbert-Ware was largely aided by the Rev. C. D. Wray, Vice-Dean and senior Canon of the new cathedral church, as well as by Canon Parkinson, who examined and copied the Chapter-house deeds. The work was to contain, amongst other documents, the will of John Huntynghdon, the first Warden, deeds relative to the foundation of the Chantries, and the dissolution of the College in the time of Edward VI.; the new charter of Philip and Mary, never before printed ; an account of the succeeding anarchy, and the charter of Elizabeth to which it gave rise ; together with information relative to the delinquencies of Dr. Murray, which led to the charter of Charles I., an authentic copy of which was promised. This work was never published. Soon after Dr. Hibbert-Ware's death in 1848 the *MSS.* were given to Mr. Thos. Agnew with the view of laying them before Mr. John Harland to arrange for publication ; but since the death of those two gentlemen the papers could never be recovered.

Canon Raines's notes upon the early Rectors, the Deans, and their clerical assistants, occupying pp. 1-15 of this work, were evidently intended as mere memoranda for further research. Amongst them are found some notable names. Of WALTER DE LANGTON, Rector before the year 1296, Canon Raine of York has furnished these additional details :

He was Rector of Askham, and a nephew and executor of William de Langton, Dean of York (*Reg. Archb. Gray*, p. 123, Surtees Soc.); Canon of York; 28 Edward I., Master of St. Leonard's Hospital, York (App. to Gale's *Reg. Honoris de Richmond*, p. 148); made Rector of Kirk Oswald, 1293 (Nicolson and Burn, vol. ii. p. 427); Dean of Bruges (*Rymer Fæd.*, vol. i. p. 766); Clerk and then Keeper of the Wardrobe; Lord Treasurer, and much employed in State affairs. Cf. *Fæd.*; *Foss' Judges*, vol. iii. p. 113; Shaw's *Staffordshire*, vol. i. pp. 268-9, &c.

The same friendly hand has supplied the following particulars of OTHO DE GRANDISON :

6 Non Jul., 1301. Letter from Boniface to the Chapter of York directing them to admit Otho de Grandison "nepos nobilis viri Othonis de G., etc." to the next vacant Canonry at York (*York Reg.*). Gerard de Grandison, his brother, held the stall of Apesthorpe at York. Bishop Grandison, who was a son of William Grandison, was also a nephew of Sir Otho de Grandison, and Prebendary of Masham at York. Thomas de Grandison, Prebendary of Lincoln, was the Bishop's brother, also William, Archdeacon of Exeter.

JOHN DE EVERDEN or EVERDON (perhaps to be properly written D'Everden) was a member of a prominent family in the service of the State, one of whom, Silvester de Everdon, was Keeper of the Great Seal in 1242. The Rector's earliest promotions in the church were to the living of

Stoke Bassett, diocese of Lincoln (which he resigned in 1307), and to the prebend of Newington, London. He became a Baron of the Exchequer, 28 November, 1307, and continued so up to the year of his appointment to Manchester, 1313. In 1308-9 he was Chancellor of Exeter; in 1311 Dean of Wolverhampton and Prebendary of Givendale in the church of Ripon. Amongst the Prebendaries of Lichfield is John *Eversden*, said to have had the stall of Bubbenhall from 3 March, 1317-18 to 1322. The Rector's chief promotion was in 1323 to the Deanery of St. Paul's, which he held up to his death. William de Everden, also a Baron of the Exchequer, is said by Foss to have been a brother or nephew of Rector John. (Newcourt's *Repertorium*, vol. i. pp. 41 *seq.*; Le Neve, vol. i. pp. 418, 586, vol. ii. pp. 311, 417; Foss' *Judges*).

The roll likewise of the Wardens comprises some eminent ecclesiastics. The salient features of their lives, as well as their relation to the times, have been duly set forth in their memoirs. HUNTINGDON, the first Warden, memorable as a builder, is an attractive character. The old *Account of the Wardens* says that he filled his place "to the great Honour of the Town and Good of the College." The document printed as his will at pp. 20-21 is not, Mr. J. P. Earwaker states, the real will, but rather a deed of feoffment of a testamentary nature. It is referred to in the original will, which Mr. Earwaker has examined, dated 7 November, 1458, and was proved before the Dean of Manchester on the 22 November of the same year.

ROGER RADCLYFFE is the second prelate on our lists who had been Dean of St. Paul's. There is a brief notice of him in Newcourt's *Repertorium*, vol. i. p. 44. Canon Raine has contributed the following notes about him :

8 Sept., 1454, Mr. Roger Radcliff, LL.D., made official of the Bishop of Ely (*MSS. Baker* at Cambr., xxx. 29). On 13th Aug., 1457, he was instituted to the living of Eltisley, in the county of Cambridge (*Ibid.*, 27); and on 30th March, 1467, he was collated to the rectory of Doddington (*Ibid.*, 41). Cf. Stevenson's App. to Bentham's *Ely*, p. 25. On June 1, 1457, he was collated to the prebend at St. Stephen's altar at Beverley, which he resigned in 1459 (*Reg. Ebor*). On 26 August, 1464, he was collated to the prebend at St. James's altar at Beverley. (*Ibid.*) In 1460-1 he was a Canon residentiary of St. Paul's, and living in Ivy Lane. (*York Reg.*) Will, 23 July, 1471, of Roger Radclyff, Dean of St. Paul's. Sep. in le Crowdes; Brother Robert R., 82<sup>s</sup>.; Brothers Hugh and George R., 20<sup>s</sup>. each; William R., son of Ralph R., my brother, 10 marks. Proved 29 July. (*Reg. Watts* at London, 134*b*.)

Of BOOTH, who became a Bishop, and who was connected with other prelates of the name, Canon Raine has sent the following notes :

From 1454 to 1459 he held the living of Barnach, Northants (Bridge's *Northants*, vol. ii. p. 493). On 25 Oct., 1454, he was admitted to the living of Gretton, diocese of Ely (*MSS. Baker*, xxx. 25). On Jan. 13, 1457-8, he was made provost of Beverley, holding it until 1465 (*York Registers*). On 15 July, 1459, he was collated to the rectory of Adbolton, Notts. (*Ibid.*) On February 4, 1465-6, he had a general pardon as Bishop of Exeter, and Warden Eccl. Coll. Maincestre. (*Fad.*, vol. xi. p. 559.) His brass at East Horsley is engraved by the Cambridge Camden Society in their "Illustrations of Sepulchral Brasses." Cf. Weever's *Sepulchral Monuments*, p. 444; Newcourt, *Rep.*, vol. i. p. 175; Oliver's *Bishops of Exeter*, pp. 106-8.



A pleasing feature in the character of RALPH LANGLEY is his love of music. He gave to Manchester and Oldham their first peals of bells at a time when, according to Major, his contemporary, there was no village in England of forty houses but that had five sweetly sounding bells. Canon Raine finds that the name of this Warden is always written *Longley* at York. He adds :

On 5th Dec., 1456, he was appointed Warden of Sibthorpe Hospital, Notts., which he resigned next month. He was then domestic chaplain to the Archbishop of York. On 9 March, 1458-9, he was collated to the rectory of St. Edward's, York, which he resigned in December, 1459. On 27 December, 1459, he was collated to the prebend of South Newbald at York. (*York Registers*.)

The two STANLEYS illustrate the local influence of a great family which acquired territorial possessions in and near Manchester, and which benefitted the church and town in many ways. JAMES STANLEY, the Bishop of Ely, the decorator of the choir, was an acquaintance of Erasmus, and was considered the secondary founder of St. John's College, Cambridge. Canon Raine supplies these further notes on his preferments in the Northern Archbishopric :

On November 1, 1479, as Jas. Stanley, junr., he was collated to the Stall of Dunham at Southwell, which he resigned in 1485 (*York Registers*). He was one of the great chaplains of the king present at the burial of Elizabeth of York (Grose's *Antiq. Rep.*, vol. iv. p. 659.) On April 15, 1493, he was collated to the stall of Shelton or Givendale, at Ripon, which he resigned in 1498 (*York Reg*). In September, 1498, he became rector of Rosthorpe, Cheshire, presented by Sir Thomas Lovell and Edmund Dudley, Esq.; he held the place until he became Bishop of Ely in 1506 (Ormerod, old ed., vol. i. p. 343; new ed., vol. i. pp. 438-9).

There is a reference to him as Warden of Manchester, in connection with his father the Earl, then Constable of England, and his brother Sir Edward Stanley, under date of 11 May, 1496, in Whitaker's *Richmond*, vol. ii. p. 245.

CLIFFE falls into the period occupied by the matter of the divorce of Queen Catherine ; with his master, Bishop West of Ely, he zealously advocated her cause. The three letters of his printed at pages 47-50 are of considerable interest. The Moor to which they refer is Theile Moor, near Chaderton.

WEST, the builder of the chapel at the end of the choir, is the representative of another territorial family. His singular conduct in forsaking the priesthood and becoming the head of a household stands out as a portent of the coming changes.

The breaking up of the College establishment was a startling event in the history of the Wardens, who never recovered their ancient home. The buildings fortunately fell into the hands of the Derby family, and they were thus reserved for their present excellent use. The ejected Warden COLLIER resided in a house in the town, long afterwards remembered as his. DEE rented the college-house from the Earl of Derby, or resided there by his favour ; the next two Wardens were often non-resident ; and HEYRICK and his successors lived in a house in Deansgate belonging to the College.

BIRCH and VAUX were the Wardens of the transition. This period has received ample illustration in the works upon the Lancashire Chantries and Church Goods. It

has been deemed appropriate to add in the Appendix the licence granted to BIRCH to act as an itinerant preacher, dated 1552, alluded to at pages 70-1. Of this form of licence twenty-six only were issued by king Edward ; and among them occurs the name of Thomas Lever, a Lancashire man, Master of Sherburn Hospital.

A more complete memoir of Vaux than that given on pp. 62-70 has recently been written by Mr. T. G. Law, in the fourth volume of the present New Series. It is unfortunate that it was due to the conscientious Vaux that the parish was deprived of its sacred plate. It is also to be lamented that the library of this Warden, the first of the literary Wardens, has been lost, although it was in existence two centuries after his time. The *Account* of 1773 says that some of Vaux's books were then to be seen at Standish, as well as "the Altar plate of this Church, which it seems he carried along with him when turned out ; some of which I have there seen, and more particularly took notice of a curious silver gilt Patin, inlaid with Pearl, whereon the Host was consecrated, and a very fine wrought Pixis of plate answerable to it, wherein it was laid up and preserved. It is to be wished that where-soever it is it were again restored to the church to which it did formerly belong ; and to do so would be a very generous Act of that ancient Family" (p. 7).

HERLE, who came from Cornwall, shares with MURRAY, who came into England with James I., the reputation of being a person of unscrupulous character. Herle's proceedings in regard to the College leases were felt for over

two hundred years later. When the Commissioners of Archbishop Grindal visited Manchester in June, 1571, some searching questions were put to Herle and his associates. The Warden confessed that he had been absent for two years and more, having a dispensation. Neither he nor the fellows, he said, were bound to preach. The only ornaments the church possessed since he had been Warden was one broken chalice. The church was in decay, and there were painted pictures there which the church-wardens had not defaced. Nicholas Danyell, one of the Fellows, averred that Edward Holt, another Fellow, kept an ale-house himself and frequented ale-houses, and was a drunkard. Richard Hall, Fellow, practised medicine with ill effects, "and when he should serve God he runneth after his phisicke and surgerye." Hall himself acknowledged that the Chapter had violated their statutes diversely; but he could not particularise, for they had not had the statutes read in the Chapter-house these eight years, "for our Maister tooke them awaye to be corrected." For the same period there had been no change of church-wardens; and the register book was not kept as it should be. At the close of Herle's Wardenship the Justices of Salford were much interested in the reform of the college, and a favourable letter to them from Henry, Earl of Derby, is printed in the Appendix.

The Elizabethan Wardens under the new foundation were men of repute, and lent dignity to their office. The historical works of Strype, and the collection of documents

brought together by Peck, of which ample and exact use has been made by Canon Raines, illustrate this period.

The Wardenship of DEE and MURRAY was most baneful. The income of the college was impoverished, and the spiritual condition of the parish was pitiable. Several documents have been published in the Chetham series and elsewhere revealing a deplorable neglect. Dee's career abounded in points of absorbing interest. An evil repute came with him, and he never gained the favour of the townsmen. His installation as Warden seems to have been attended by a great auditory, and the ceremony was deemed deserving of special remembrance. He entertained learned visitors at the College-house, including Camden, who mentions him with honour in the *Britannia*. Upon this or a former visit Camden learned to appreciate "the good honest men" of Manchester, and "the hearty good Lancashire men," who are commended in the same work. Dee's Diary affords glimpses of the Manchester of his day, and it also brings into prominence the incongruity of his position as the spiritual overseer of an extensive parish. Yet Dee is worthy of memory as being the first of the Wardens who compiled an account of his predecessors and a description of the church. This *MS.*, reasonably supposed by Canon Raines to be in his handwriting, is now at Heralds' College (*Lanc. Chant.*, p. 29); and it is frequently quoted in the present work.

A remarkable report is extant on the condition of the diocese of Chester, drawn up by Neyle, who was enthroned Archbishop of York in October, 1632, and who soon after-

wards visited his Province. The document, addressed to the King, is dated in January following, about a year before the granting of the new Charter. Neyle complains of the condition of the fabrics of the churches, which were miserable and ruinous, and of the neglect of the prayers, "as if all religion were but in a sermon." His remarks on the Collegiate Church are given in the Appendix.

HEYRICK was the Warden of the two Caroline charters. He was ordained (as the Rev. Dr. Jessopp has ascertained from the episcopal registers at Norwich) at the parish church of Ludham, Norfolk, 24 September, 1626, by Bishop Harsnet, having received deacon's orders from Buckeridge, Bishop of Rochester. His institution to the rectory of North Repps, Norfolk, on the presentation of the king as Duke of Lancaster, took place on 9 August, 1626, being vacant by the death of William Carr, the last incumbent. Heyrick encouraged the repair of the choir of Manchester Church. He retained his position during the troubles by placing himself at the head of the local Presbyterian Classis; and he managed to re-establish himself in the Wardenship at the Restoration. His character has been admirably sketched by Mr. James Crossley in a note in the *Diary of Worthington*, vol. i. pp. 236-7.

The period of the interregnum is richly illustrated by the local autobiographies of Newcome and Martindale. The diary of Meeke, minister of Salford, has been lost.

On the change of times more than one person coveted the Wardenship. One indeed had actually been Warden-designate for about fifteen years, viz.: DR. EDWARD

WOLLEY. During the war, when Heyrick was deemed a delinquent, Wolley had received a patent for the place from Charles I. In July, 1660, he was seeking to confirm his appointment by bringing his claims under the notice of Charles II.; and his action forced Heyrick to repair to London. Two years later, as Bartholomew's day approached, it was reported from London that Wolley was sure to come into the Wardenship; and the news "saddened" Heyrick and hastened his decision to conform. (Newcome's *Autob.*, pp. 123, 125; *Diary*, p. 109.) The Merry Monarch, after his manner, regarded Wolley as "a very silly fellow"; but because he found that he had brought to church all the Nonconformists in his parish of Toppesfield, Essex, he gave him the bishopric of Clonfert (Burnet's *Own Times*, ed. 1766, vol. i. p. 362-3).

Another prelate who wished to be Warden was DR. RALPH BRIDEOAK (Newcome's *Diary*, p. 74), who had been successively a scholar of Manchester School, the Head-master, and a Feoffee. After the execution of his patron, Lord Derby, he had retired to Witney, near Oxford, where Speaker Lenthall was his chief parishioner and friend. At some time before the troubles or after the Restoration, he had so far associated himself with Manchester that the house in which he lived at Cheetham Hill was well known, being set down in Ogilby's road-map of 1675 as "Dr. Pridcock's house"; and the building was pointed out to Thoresby in the year 1682 as the house in which the bishop was born.

At a later time (August, 1677) DR. JOHN WORTHINGTON,

the learned theologian, sought the appointment; one of the charms of dwelling in the town, next to its having been his home, was "the good library." His letter on the subject is given in his *Diary* (vol. i. pp. 236-42), where some later suitors for the place are also introduced.

DR. WROE was one of the Wardens who manifested a regard for the antiquities of the church over which he presided. His name is associated with a memorial of the church, which by reason of its accuracy would be of extreme value if it could be recovered, viz., a *MS.* drawn up by Dr. Worthington, just alluded to. Dr. Worthington, when at Cambridge, paid many visits to Manchester, and he was concerned in some memorials of the church and town, and compiled an account of "the painted glass windows in our church whilst intire, with the histories, inscriptions, and coats of arms in them." This *MS.* Warden Wroe had often in vain sought after; and he wrote in 1712 to Worthington's son, the Rev. John Worthington, to beg a copy of it if it were among the Doctor's papers. (Worthington's *Diary*, vol. i. p. 238.)

The two Wardens PEPLOE were connected with the stirring politics of the eventful years 1715 and 1745; and very ample details of those periods are given by Hibbert-Ware.

Passing over the later Wardens it remains to add that Canon Raines has throughout expressed his obligations to those who gave him information. When preparing the memoirs he was assisted by CANON RAINE of York; and the same gentleman, as already mentioned, has supplied



the Editor with other valuable references, shewing chiefly the positions which the Rectors and Wardens occupied in the Archbishopric of York. The *MS.* copy of Canon Raines has been pretty closely followed, and has been altered only in places when it was necessary. Many of the references have been verified and others added. The lists of the writings of the Wardens have been somewhat extended or revised. In the preparation of the Index MR. H. P. EVANS has rendered efficient help.

JOHN E. BAILEY.

STRETFORD,  
MANCHESTER.

## The Rectors and Wardens of Manchester.

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### THE RECTORS, ETC.

A CA, Rector of S. Maries, Mamcester, *sine dato, temp.* Hen. II.  
[Cf. Hibbert-Ware's *Foundations of Manchester*, vol. iv.  
p. 38.]

"ASCO, Clerico," attests a grant of lands in Mamcester from  
Robert de Grella to Ralph de Ancotes. Orm. de Ashton attests,  
*s. d. tpe.* H.

ROG. DE PENDULBURY, Cler., attests in Mamcestr., *s. d. tpe.*  
Hen. III. (Trafford *Evid.*, *Lanc. MSS.*, p. 194.)

"J., Decanus de Mamcestre," attests *s. d. tpe.* Hen. III. (Hol-  
linworth's *Mancun.*, 1839, p. 30. [Whittaker's *Hist. Manch.*, 4to.  
vol. ii. p. 391.]

"JURDAN, Capell. de Mamcestr.," attests *s. d.* Jurd., Capell.  
ejusd. villæ, *s. d. tpe.* Hen. III. (*Ib.* p. 30. He says Ao. 1235.)  
[Hibbert-Ware, vol. iv. pp. 25, 52; *Coucher Book of Whalley*,  
pp. 39-40.]

RIC., cleric. de Mamcestr., attests the grant of Hamo de Mascy  
to Henr. fil. Rob. de Trafford in Stretford, *s. d. tpe.* Hen. III.  
(Trafford *Evid.*, vol. xxv. *Lanc. MSS.*, p. 177.) He attests again  
the grant of a bovate in Stretford to Rob. fil. Ric'i. (*Ib.*) And is

the last attestor of a grant of Gilbert son of Will'i de Droylsdene to Thyeret his sister, *s. d.* (*Ib.*, pp. 17, 198.)

"RANULPH DE WELHUM, tunc Decanus Mamcestrie," is the first attestor in the grant of Hamo, son of Rich. de Oldum, to John, son of Rich. de Chaderton, of lands in Oldum to hold of God and Blessed Marie of Prestwich and the Rectors thereof. (Booker's *Prestwich*, p. 250, app.) Ralph de Willing, or Welham, Rector of Manchester, 6 Ric. I., Ao. 1194-5. (Dr. Hibb.-Ware's *Hist.*, vol. iv. pp. 26, 188-90.)

JOHN DE LEYA, Cleric., attests the grant of Margaret, dau. of Hamo de Mascy, to Ric. de Trafford of the whole vill of Stretford, *s. d.* Hen. III. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxv. p. 177.) And also the grant of Ric. de Trafford to Ric. fil. Rob. de Stretford of the 8th part of the vill of Stretford. (*Ib.*, p. 179.)

DOM. GALFRID. DE MAMCEST., Sacerdos, attests Gilbert de Barton's grant of lands to Dom. Tho. Gredle et hered. *s. d.* (Trafford *Evid.*, vol. xxv. p. 186.) Galfr., Capell. de Mamcestr., attests after Sir Geffrey de Chetham the grant of Alice, dau. of William le Clerk, *s. d. tpe.* Hen. III. (*Ib.*) Dom. G., Decan. de Mamcestr., attests next after W., Vicar of Rachdale, *s. d.* (*Coucher Book of Whalley*, p. 601, ante 1238.) Dom. Galfr. de Mamcestr., Capell., and Ric. de Trafford, Rector Ecclesiæ de Chedle, occur as attestors, *s. d.* (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxv. p. 84.)

PETER DE GRELLA, custos eccl'ie de Mamcestr., 52 Hen. III. Ao. 1268. He was 2nd son of Thomas de Grelly, who died 26 Hen. III. (Dr. H.-Ware's *Hist.*, vol. iv. pp. 26, 60, 188, 190.)

"DOM. RANULF, tunc Decanus," is the first attestor of the grant of H. de Ancotes to Alex. Tincto de Mamcestr. of one acre in Ancotes with a mess. and curtilage. 22 Edw. I. Ao. 1294. (Trafford *Evid.*, vol. xxv.)

ROBERT DE OPENSHAGH, Capell. de Mamecestr., Ao. 1294. (Trafford *Evid.*, p. 3.)

HUGH EBOND, Clerc., attests a quitclaim from E. de Mascy, vidua to Ric. de Trafford, in vill de Stretford, *s. d.* (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxv.)

WALTER DE LANGTON, Rector of Mamcest., Preb. of Sandiacre, in Lichfield, elected Bishop of the See, 20 Feb. 1295-6. He covenanted with dom. Will. de Gringalee, Rector of Mamcestr. to receive xxxvj<sup>li</sup> vjs viij<sup>d</sup>, also vj<sup>li</sup> due to him as "quondam Rectore ecc'e de Mammecestr.," and which the Dean had received during the vacancy of the benefice. (Langton's *Reg.*) He died 10 Nov. 1321. [Hibbert-Ware, vol. iv. pp. 68, 84.]

WILLIAM, Clerc de Mamcest., at that time Bailiff of the Manor of Manchester, attests on Sunday next after the Feast of Ascension, Ao. 1291. (Traff. *Evid.*, p. 181.) Dom. William de Gringalee, Rector of the Church of Mam'cestr., 1299, covenants to pay out of the Rents of the Rectory certain sums to W., Bishop of Cov. and Lich., formerly Rector of the Church of Mamcestr. (Bp. W. Langton's *Reg. Lichf.*)

WILLIAM SYGYN, "nunc Rector Eccl'ie, de Mammcestr.," is named in the composition of Bishop Langton last named, so that Gringalee had either resigned or there were two Rectors entitled to the tithes, obventions, and altarage. Will. de Hunte, Capell., was at that time Farmer of the Altarage of the Chapel of Ashton. (Langton's *Reg. Lichf.*) Ao. 1299. Dr. H.-Ware says Langton held the living of Ashton.

"M., Clerico de Maimcestr., qui comparavit hanc cartam," attests with Sir Geoffrey de Chetham, Ri. de Trafford, Ri. de Moston, Willo. de Noreys, Tho. de Barlow, and Will. de Didesbury, the grant of Will. de Drilsden to Alex., son of Ric. de

Warnanton, of lands in Drylesden and one rod for a building, in marriage with Elen, dau. of Will. de Drilsden, *s. d.*

ROB., Clerk de Manxcetr., attests the grant of John de Hulme to Adam de Pendeulbury of all his lands in Quickleswick and six bovates in fee and heirship, *s. d.* circ. Hen. III. (Traff. *Evid.* p. 193.) Qu., Archd. of Northants, Ao. 1217-21. (Le Neve, vol. ii. p. 55.)

JOHN, son of Griffin de Mamcestr., Rector.

ALBERT DE NEUILLE, Rector Eccl'ie de B. M. de Mamcest., grants to John de Byron for his homage "a certain part of my Land in the vill of Newton" between the boundaries minutely described. Rent iij<sup>li</sup> iij<sup>s</sup> o<sup>d</sup>, and two wax candles of one pound each in weight at the Feast of the Assumpt. of B. V. M. (Traff. *Evid.*, p. 29; see also p. 24, note.) No date. Before Edw. I. [Hibbert-Ware, vol. iv. pp. 25 *seq.*, 84.]

WILLIAM DE MARCHIA, Rector of Manchester, 31 Edw. I. (Ao. 1302), being at that time Canon of Wells and Bishop of Bath and Wells, having been consecrated by Rich. Bp. of London on Whitsunday, 17 May, 1292-3. He was also Lord High Treasurer of England. (Le Neve, vol. i. p. 135.) He died June 11, 1302, so that he had only held the Rectory of Manchester a short time. (Godwin's *De Præsul.*, vol. i. p. 374.) [Hibb.-Ware, vol. iv. pp. 68, 83.]

OTHO, or OTO, DE GRANDISON, by John Cusyn de Grandison, his Procurator in the Church of Mamcestr., was instituted to the Rectory on the xiv. Cal. October, 1299, on the presentation of King Edw. I., dated York. On the same day the Archd. of Chester granted a Licence for his maintenance at School, for 2 years (sistend. in scholis p' bienn'u'), probably at the University. (Langton's *Reg. Lichf.*) He seems to have been nearly connected

with John de Grandison, Bishop of Exeter, 1327–1369; and with Thomas de Grandison, Preb. of Lincoln, who “obiit in Curia Romana,” circa 1317, and to whose stall the Bishop succeeded. (Le Neve, vol. ii. p. 155; Willis' *Cathedr.*, vol. i. pp. 105, 152; vol. ii. p. 189.) Sir Otho de Grandison was the resident minister of Edw. II., at the Court of Avignon. (*Wardrobe Accts.*, 10, 11, and 14, Edw. II., in *Archæologia*, 1835, p. 314.) Sir Otto de Grandisone attests a grant of Sir Thomas Cobham, Knt., to Sir John de Cobham his brother, 18 Edw. III. (Nichols' *Collect. Topogr. et Gen.*, vol. vii. p. 346.) He was nominated to the Rectory of Manchester by the king during the minority of the patron, Sir Tho. de Gredley, Knt. (Dr. Hib.-Ware, vol. iv. p. 70.) In a Collection of Foreign Charters relating to the Channel Islands, copied from the originals by John Melivier, Esq., of Guernsey, accompanied by 15 gutta percha impressions of the seals, and exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries, December 22, 1853, by Benj. Williams, Esq., occurs the device of *Sire Otheo de Grandsson*, Ao. d'ni. 1316. (*Proceed. of the Soc.*, No. 38, vol. iii. p. 44.) [Hib.-Ware, vol. iv. pp. 69, 84.]

GALFRIDUS DE STOKE, instituted to the Rectory of Mamchester—not in 1301 (Hollinworth and H.-Ware), but pridie kal. April 1306, on the presentation of Thomas de Grelly, the patron. Master Thomas, Vicar of the Bishop of Lichfield and Cov., committed the custody of the sequestration of the Church of Mamchester, by the voluntary resignation of the Bishop, to Dom. Geoffrey de Stokes, Clerk. The said Geoffrey was also presented, at the same time, to “Ecclesiæ de Ashton,” on the nomination of Nicholas de Arden, by permission of the same Tho. de Grelly, all episcopal rights and customs being reserved. Letters Pat. dated London, 30 April. 1306. Stoke, or Stokes, was Chaplain to king Edw. I., being styled in the Litt. Pat., “D'ni n'ri Regis Clericum.” (Langton's *Reg. Lich.*) Mr. Beaumont (*Annals of the Lords of Warrington*, vol. i. p. 158) is of opinion that he was the same man as Geoffrey de Mamcestre, who ulti-

mately became the Dean: but see p. 2 *ante*. Stoke was not the Dean, and the two must not be rolled up into one. [Hibb.-Ware, vol. iv. p. 76.]

MAG. JOHN D'EVORDEN, Presbyter, was admitted to the vacant Church of Mamecestre in London, ix. kal. Febr., 1313, on the presentation of Sir John le Ware, Knt., the true patron, and was canonically instituted. (Langton's *Reg. Lichf.*) The name of this Rector has been a fertile source of conjecture, error, and blunder. Dr. Hibbert-Ware styles him John de Worden *alias* Vorden, and considers him to have been a native of Westphalia; but on what ground is not stated. (*Hist.*, vol. i. p. 29.) James Dearden, Esq., F.S.A., claimed him as a member of his family, and regarded Deuorden as the vernacular of Deurden or Dearden, and actually erected a fine mediæval monument to his memory in Trinity Chapel, within the parish Church of Rochdale. I examined the original entry in Bishop Langton's *Register* at Lichfield with great care, and found the name clearly written "Deuorden," which is a clerical mistake, as in the same volume it is recorded that on the 4 kal. October, 1323, Master John de Cuerdon resigned the Rectory of Manchester for the Deanery of St. Paul's, London. (Northburgh's *Reg. Lichf.*, p. 99.) His name, after all these conjectures and variations of spelling, was John de Everdon, or Everd, Prebendary of Newington in St. Paul's, and admitted Dean of that Cathedral, 15 Sep., 1323, installed 25th of the same month. He died 15 January, 1336-7, and was buried in the Church of St. Faith, under St. Paul's. His will was proved 3 February, 1336-7. (Le Neve, vol. ii. pp. 311, 417.) His brother William de Everdon, was Preb. of Lincoln, 1325, 1344-5. (*Ib.*, p. 185.) Hollinworth states that John Deeverden got a dispensation to absent himself from the Church of Manchester, at the instance of Sir William Herle, Knt., and that the living at that time, as appeared by a survey then taken, was worth 200 marks per annum. The Parsonage house was situated near a street called the Deansgate. (Hollinworth's *Mancun.*,

pp. 31-33.) From a survey of the manor of Manchester, made A.D. 1322, in pursuance of the statute, *Extenta Manerii*, 4 Edw. I., stat. i., the Church of Mamcestre is said to be worth 200 marks, and that John de Cuerden had been presented to the same by Lord John de la Warr, and having been instituted possessed the endowment, consisting of 8 burgages in Mamcestre, and the vills of Newton and Kirmonshulme, with the meadows, woods, pastures, and other appurtenances. (*Harl. MSS.*, cod. 2085, fo. 526b. Kuerden's *MSS.*, fol. 274.) By *vill* is probably meant 'manor,' which the word signifies in *Domesday Book*. (Sir Hen. Ellis' *Introd. to Domesday*, p. 76.) [Hibb.-Ware, vol. iv. p. 88.]

MAGISTER ADAM DE SUTHWICK, Clerk, was instituted to the Rectory of Mamchester on the presentation of Sir John le Warre, Knt., his proxy being Master William de Weston, Canon of Lichfield and Coventry (1322), and Commissary, on the resignation of Master John de Cuerdon, now Dean of St. Paul's. Instituted 4 kal. Oct., 1323, on which day appeared John de Suthwyck, Rector of Papworth, and answered all objections for the said Adam. (Northburgh's *Reg. Lichf.*, p. 99.) Hollinworth erroneously states that Suthwike was presented to the Rectory Ao. 1327. (*Mancun.*, p. 35.) Dr. Ormerod the same; and that Sir Will. Herle also obtained a dispensation of non-residence for him. This is incorrect in both incidents. He died Rector, 31st July, 1327. [Hibb.-Ware, vol. iv. p. 94. He was Rector of Rostherne from 1319 to the time when he took the cure of the Church of Mamcester. Ormerod, vol. i. p. 437. last ed.]

JOHN DE CLAYDON, Presbyter, was admitted to the Rectory of Manchester, and canonically instituted, ix. kal. Sept., 1327, in the person of Thomas de Wyke his Proctor, he exhibiting sufficient authority in this matter; the Patron being Sir John de Ware, and the Church having been vacant since the last day of July, by the death of Adam de Suthwyck, the last Rector there. (Northburgh's *Reg. Lichf.*) He was probably a native of Lanca-



shire. The Claydons of Tongton, *alias* Tawnton, in the Parish of Ashton-under-Lyne, were settled there for several centuries and were not unlikely originally from Clayton near Manchester. Dom. John de Claidone, P'sona Mamcestr., is the first attestor of the Grant of John de la Warr, Lord of Manchester, of Lands to Rich. ffranc' and Cecilia his wife, on Sunday next after the feast of Hilary, 7 Edw. III. Ao. 1333. (*Lanc. MSS.* vol. xxiv. p. 399.) He was probably brother of Robert de Claydon, Chancellor of Cambridge Ao. 1340-1341 (Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 598), and a relative of John de Claydone, inst. to the 12th stall in S. Paul's Cath., 17 kal. Nov., 1361, on the Nomination of Sir John de la Warr. (Newcourt's *Reper.*, i. p. 174.) Dom. John de Claydone, Parson of the Church of Manchester, attests the grant of land in Blakeley to John de Claydone, Capell., and Dom. Will. de Barton, Capell., in trust for Emme, wife of John de Penulbury, by John de la Warr. Dated Mamcestr., on Thursday next after the feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross, 14 Edw. III. (Traff. *Evid.*) Dom. Joh'es de Claidon, Parson of the Church of Manchr, attests the entail of Johanna, formerly wife of John le Warr, of lands in Bradford and Mamcestr., upon John de Salford de Wakerly, and Alice his wife, w'ch the said Johanna ratified, by deed, dated 21 Edw. III. (1346-7). (Traff. *Evid.* vol. xxv. p. 64.) [Hibb.-Ware, vol. iv. pp. 96, 100.]

JOHN DE HERLE, Clerk, Rector of the Church of Mancestr., on the 12th March, 1333, on which day and year, John de Hotham, Bishop of Ely, and formerly Canon of York and Provost of Queen's College, Oxford, and afterwards Chancellor of England, addressed a letter to Roger de Northburgh, Bishop of Lichfield and Treasurer of the Exchequer, in which he stated that these two "discreet men," Dom. John de Herle, Rector of the Church of Mancestr., and Dom. Roger de Crephull, Rector of Dudyngton in the diocese of Ely, were engaged in arduous and various causes, in hearing, examining and deciding these causes, and that they being desirous of exchanging their Bene-

fices, the said Roger had resigned his Parsonage of Dudyington to the said John, who desired to be admitted thereto, and by his letter, dated Dutton, xii. March, 1333, asked to be instituted, which was also the request of the Bishop of Ely, apud Heywood, xi. kal. April, 1333. The Bishop's consent being obtained, there is a letter announcing it thus :— "Roger, by divine permission, Bp. of Lichfield, to my beloved Son in Christ, 'Roger de Crephull, Presbyter, in utraque lege doctor,' grace and benediction."— (See below). The probability is that Herle was a son of Sir William Herle, Kt., made by Edw. III. Chief Justice of the King's Bench in Hilary term, 1327, and in the same year Judge of the Common Pleas. He was in high favour with the king and died in 1335. This Rector probably never resided in Manchester ; he was a Clerk in Chancery.

ROGER DE CREPHULL, Presbyter, in utraque lege doctor, was instituted to the Rectory of Manchester, in the diocese of Lichfield, on the resignation of Dom. John Herle, the last Rector there, the Bishop of Lichfield being Patron for this turn. (Northburgh's *Reg. Lichf.*) This man, like the last, appears to have been a Clerk in Chancery, and absent from his living. He is probably the Rector, and not D'Evorden, who, according to Hollinworth, obtained a licence for non-residence through Sir William Herle, Knt. (See *ante* p. 6.)

THOMAS DEL WYKE, Presbyter, was instituted to the Rectory of Manchester on the 11 kal. September, 1351, on the presentation of Joan, widow of John Lord la Warr. Dr. Hibbert-Ware says that he was the immediate successor of Claydon, which is not correct. He resided upon his benefice, which the two intervening Rectors did not do. On the 3 kal. April, 1352, he granted the privilege of sepulture to the inhabitants of Didsbury, and the Bishop issued a license, with the Rector's consent, to celebrate Divine offices and services in the ancient Chapel there. The Chapel had existed beyond the memory of man, but had been

long disused. (Northburgh's *Reg.*) v. Id. Nov., 1357, a dispensation was granted to Thom. de Wyk, Rector of the Church of Mamchester, to be absent from his Church "in loco honesto," for two years, and it is ordered that he pay ten marks, five at Easter next, and five at the same feast next following. (*Ib.*) On the 3 October, 1355, a similar dispensation had been granted him, and all the fruits and revenues allowed. (*Ib.*) And it is stated on the 5 August, 1421, that "in times past some of the Rectors never, and some very rarely, cared to reside personally in the large, spacious, and populous parish." (Decree of Bp. of Cov. and Lich., p. vii. of Turner's *Letter to Bp. of Manch.*, ii. app., 8vo, 1850.) On the 2 kal. January, 1360, the Bishop granted a licence to Dom. Thome de Wyk, Rector of Manchester, and a presbyter, to be absent on his occasions from his Church. (Northburgh's *Reg. Lichf.*) And on the same day the Bishop granted to Dom. Roger la Warre, a licence for his Oratory at Blakley, for two years. (*Ibid.*) On the viii. Feb., 1360, the Bishop granted to Dom. Thome de Wyke, Rector of Manchester. licence of absence for two years, with a clause as to a certain part of the tithes being appropriated to a *locum tenens*. (*Ibid.*) 4 Idus Maii, 1362, Thomas, son of Thomas de Wyk, was inst. to the Rectory of Ashton subter Limam, on the presentation of Roger la Warre, Patron. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxii. p. 10.) "Thomas de Wyke de Mamecestre" is the first, and John de Wyke, the second attestor of Roger le Warre's grant to Thomas de Booth of Barton, of all the lands in Barton, formerly belonging to John, son of Gilbert de Barton. Dated London, on the Feast of S. Margaret the Virgin, 39 Edw. III. (*Ib.*, vol. xxv. p. 212.) On the 5 February, 1364, at London, Bishop Stretton granted a licence to Thomas de Wyk, senior Rector of the church of Manchester, to hear confessions and to absolve his parishioners, according to the accustomed form, "usque ad festum Pasche prox. futurum." (Northburgh's *Reg.*) In the 47 Edw. III., 1367, Thomas de Booth of Barton, Esq., appointed Thomas de Wyche, Rector of the Church of Manchester, Richard, son of John de

Radcliffe, John Radcliffe, his brother, and Ellen Booth his (testator's) wife, the executors of his will, and provided that masses should be offered on the altar of S. Katherine, in Eccles, for the souls of Edw. III., Roger la Warre, Thomas de Wyche, Parson of Manchester, and for the souls of the testator's parents, Roger de Hulton, and other benefactors. (Gastrell's *Notitia Cest.*, vol. ii. pt. 1, p. 48, note.) [Hibb.-Ware, vol. iv. p. 105.]

THOMAS DE LA WARRE, son of Roger Lord de la Warre, born about 1359, was the last Rector of Manchester on the old foundation.

On Sunday in the feast of Pentecost, 44 Edw. III., Anno 1370, Thomas de la Warre, Capell., and John de ffarington, Sen., granted to William, son of William del Lee and Isote his wife, half of the manors of Croston and Maudisley, and all the lands in Longton, which they held of the said William del Lee. (Traff. *Evid.*; *Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxv. p. 265). The seals appended are, 1. *Warre*, a lamb and banner; 2. *ffarington*, three leopards' faces, between a chevron.

On 1 Nov., 1373, Magr. Thom. de la Warr resigned the Rectory of Ashton-under-Lyme, and John le Warre the Patron presented John de Marcheford, Presb. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxii. p. 10.) In 1376 he was collated to the Prebend of Sleaford in Lincoln Cathedral, which he resigned in the year 1426 (Le Neve, vol. ii. p. 161), having held it half a century. On the 31 Jan., 1381, he was collated to the Prebend of Grindall in York Cathedral, which he held until his death. Dr. Hibbert-Ware says that he "soon after" became Rector of Manchester and obtained a dispensation for non-residence [vol. iv. p. 112]. I did not meet with his nomination at Lichfield.

On the 20 Ric. II. Ao. 1396, Thomas le Warre, Capell., granted to Ellen, dau. of Alexander de Pilkington, half of a burgage which he had of the gift of the said Ellen, between the burgages of Hen., son of John de Strangways of Manchester, to have for the term of her life, and the reversion to John Lancaster and his

heirs. (Traff. *Evid.*, vol. xxv. p. 63.) On the 8 Aug., 1397, he was collated to the Prebend of Oxton and Cropwell, in the collegiate Church of Southwell, on the resignation of Tho. de Weston. (Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 450.) He resigned his stall in 1404. (*Ib.*)

On the death of his elder brother, John\* (22 Ric. II. according to Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 450; and 1 Hen. IV. 1399, according to Dr. Hibbert-Ware) without issue, the Rector succeeded to the Barony of De la Warr, and as the representative of the old Barons de Grelley, Lords of Manchester, he was summoned to Parliament. (Hollinworth's *Mancun.* p. 38; H.-Ware's *Hist.*, vol. i. p. 35.) After his succession to the Peerage, he seems chiefly to have resided at the Baron's Hall in Manchester, and to have styled himself "Decanus Decanatûs de Mamcestr.," which would seem to shew according to Whittaker's inference, that the Decanal and Rectorial title were united. (*Hist. Manch.*, by Rev. John Whittaker, vol. ii. pp. 391-2.) [Hibb.-Ware, vol. iv. p. 122.]

[Jan. 10, 1401-2, lic. to Thos. Lord la Warre to be absent from Parlt. for three years. (*Fæd.* viii. 236.) On Apr. 1, 1403, the king requests a loan of 500 marks from "Le Sire de la Warre," to enable him to resist the Welsh and Scotts. (*Acts and Orders Privy Council*, vol. i. p. 202.) *R.*]

On the 29 Sep., 1407, he was collated to the stall and prebend of Riccal in York Minster, and only vacated it at his death. (Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 209.) And in 1419 he obtained the prebend of Ketton in Lincoln Cathedral which he held at his death. (*Ib.*, vol. ii. p. 158). At this time he was Rector of Swineshead, near Spalding, in Lincolnshire.

On the Thursday next after the Feast of the Ascension, 10 Hen. IV., 1410, Thomas del Warr, Lord la Warr, conveyed to Alice, relict of Thomas de Ashton of Croston, and daughter of Sir William de la Lee, Knt., certain lands which he had held in trust. (Traff. *Evid.*) In the year 1419, he succeeded Archdeacon Hanworth in the Canonry of Ketton, in Lincoln Cathedral (Le

\* [For this, see Dugdale's *Baronage*, vol. ii. p. 17. He was then 40 years old.—*R.*]

Neve, vol. ii. p. 158), so that he was not indisposed to hold Church preferment after he had obtained the Barony of La Warr, and even contemplated resigning the rich Rectory of Manchester in his own gift.

He had an intimate acquaintance with the spiritual wants of his large and extensive parish ; and, we may hope, being imbued with a love of learning and wishful to promote the spread of Christian doctrine, he determined to found a Collegiate Church within his manor of Manchester. In this liberal determination, and in settling the foundation and its revenues, he was advised by his early friend and former neighbour, Bishop Langley, the Lord Chancellor, whose munificence had not been confined to the Galilee of Durham, and whose regard for Manchester was evinced by a bequest to form a public Library in that important town. It may, however, be reasonably inferred that another and principal cause for altering the constitution of the Church was a desire to arrest the propagation of the Lollard doctrines and the encroachments attempted to be made on the revenues of the Church by an innovating and unscrupulous House of Commons. (Campbell's *Chancell.*, vol. i. p. 329.) Lord de la Warr's name is frequently associated with that of Langley in Lancashire matters, and Langley's name is discredibly connected with the sentence passed against Sir John Oldcastle, Lord Cobham, who was the first English peer burnt as a heretic. In the *Registers* of the Bishop of Lichfield there are many records of individuals in the diocese being summoned and convened "for religion," but the precise offence and the punishment are alike omitted.

On 22 May, 1421, Henry V. granted his licence to Tho. de la Warr to erect the Parish Church into a Collegiate Church. On 14 June, 1421, the churchwardens and parish assented. On 5 August, 1421, William, Bishop of Lichfield, granted a decree to erect the Parish Church of Manchester into a Collegiate Church. (See ii. app. to Mr. Turner's *Letter to Bp. of Manch.* 8vo, 1850.)

On the 9 May, 1422, 9 Hen. V., Lord la Warr paid two hundred marks into the king's exchequer, and obtained the royal

licence, under the seal of the Duchy of Lancaster, for the appropriation of the Rectorial tithes and possessions of St. Mary's Church (afterwards to be abandoned) to the new Collegiate institution. He also reserved 3000*l.* for the building of his College. He increased the efficiency of his Church by an additional number of Clergymen, and made ample provision for their becoming maintenance. He also gave the ancient Baronial Hall, adjoining the College, formerly the residence of the Lords of the Manor, for a residence for these ecclesiastics. The new Foundation was to be dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Denys, and St. George, but in the charter the first name only occurs. The establishment was to consist of a Master or Keeper (custos), 8 Fellows, 4 Clerks, and 6 Choristers, under the title of the Guild or Company of the Blessed Virgin of Manchester. They had also the privilege of a common seal. (H.-Ware's *Hist.*, vol. i. pp. 41, 42.) This authority observes that the eight Fellows associated with the first Warden consisted of *two Parish Priests, two Canons, and four Deacons*, to whom were attached four clerks and six choristers. In the original charter they are styled — "*Master or Keeper, and his Fellows Chaplains* of the same, who were to be *parsons perpetual*."

Before this time, although the precise date has not been discovered, Lord la Warr had resigned the Rectory of Manchester; and on the 9 May, 9 Hen. V., as recited in the charter of the 22 May, 1422, he had resigned the advowson of the Rectory of Swyneshead, in Lincolnshire, to John Heneage and Nicholas Motte, whom he appointed two of his trustees of the manor and advowson of Manchester. [He was a benefactor to Crowland Abbey in 1422. (Gale, vol. iii. p. 515.) *R.*]

In a *Brief Account of the Collegiate Church of Manchester*, by the Rev. Robert Assheton, M.A., Ao. 1700, 8vo, in *MS. penes me*, it is recorded, "The Rector's elder brother being dead, without an heir, and the estate devolving upon him (the Rector), he obtained a dispensation from the Pope to marry, upon this condition, that he should found a College in the same place where

he had been Parson, for a Warden, and *Eight Fellow Chaplains*, eight singing men, eight boys, and two parish clerks, which he did accordingly, and gave *twelve* manors or lordships to the maintaining of the same." The statements here made are in several respects inaccurate, especially as regards the number on the original foundation.

In 1423, May 15, Letters of Fraternity were granted by the Prior and Convent of Durham, to Sir Thomas de l'Ware et de Manchestre, Canon of York and Lincoln, and Rector of the parish Church of Swynnesheued. (*Reg.* 2, p. 101; *Durham Obituary Rolls*, Surtees Soc., vol. lxxxv. p. 109.) Having accomplished his great undertaking in Manchester, but before the completion of the building of his Church and College, he quitted the scene of his useful labours and munificence, before 8 May, 1427, aged about 68 years. He held his Canonries of York and Lincoln, and apparently the living of Swineshead, at the time of his death, although Nicholas Motte is styled Rector, 22 May, 1421, Henry V.

There had been another and an earlier connection between the Gresleys and De la Warrs, otherwise the Rector would not have been summoned to Parliament as a Baron in consequence of his elder brother having married the heiress of the Lords de Grellly. Sir Thomas de Gresley, K.B., 34 Edw., I., was summoned to Parliament as a Baron from the 1 to the 4 of Edw. II. He died *s.p.* in 1347, and his large estates passed to his sister Joan de Gresley, who married John, son of Roger de la Warr. (Burke's *Extinct Peerage*, p. 230.)



## THE WARDENS.

JOHN HUNTINGDON was the first Warden of Manchester, being the Rector of Ashton-under-Lyne, and probably Chaplain to his patron, Thomas, Lord de la Warre. John Huntingdon, B.D., was presented to William, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, by the Lord de la Warre (who reserved the patronage during his life), and was admitted November 23, 1422, a few months after the accession of Hen. VI. Like his patron, he was a pious and public-spirited Churchman, and was obviously selected to fill the important office in consequence of his peculiar adaptation for its duties. He was probably more a good man of business, as his Church works required him to be, than a literary character. During his presidency the new works of the College and Church proceeded, being materially aided by his individual liberality and influence. The sum bequeathed for the erection of the buildings by the late Custos proving insufficient for the large undertaking, it was found necessary to deviate from the original plans, and, according to the prevailing custom, to build a considerable portion of the Church of timber.

Several mementoes of his connection with the new buildings appeared in the form of rebuses or puns on his name, which still remain in the carvings; and others also exist under some of the *Misereries* in the Church of St. Michael at Ashton-under-Lyne, which had been either rebuilt or considerably adorned during his Incumbency. It has not been noticed that Huntingdon on his appointment to the Wardenship retained the Rectory of Ashton-under-Lyne for two years before he resigned it in favour of his successor. On the 22 Nov., 1424, James Skelyngton, Clerk, was presented to the Rectory by Thomas Lord la Warre "on the resignation of John Huntingdon." He held the living only a few months, as the same patron again presented Warden Huntingdon,

who was instituted 12 June, 1425, on the resignation of Skelyngton, who had evidently been the wrong person for carrying on Church works. Nor has it been noticed that Warden Huntingdon held Ashton Rectory until his death, when on the 6 Nov., 1458, Sir Thomas Assheton, Knt., the patron, presented Laurence Assheton, Chaplain, who died there in 1486.

The Warden "built the choir of Manchester Church with the aisles on both sides, being in length thirty yards, and in breadth twenty yards, from the two great pinnacles, where the organs stood betwixt, to the east end of the Church." Nor did his zeal for the house of God terminate with his life, as he bequeathed by will nearly the whole of his effects for Ecclesiastical purposes.

He was much in the confidence of the great neighbouring families of Pilkington and Trafford, and it may be inferred that like them he adhered to the cause of the house of Lancaster. In 8 Hen. VI. (1429), Sir Reginald West, Lord la Warre, gave by indenture to William Chantrell, Serjeant-at-Law, and Master John Huntingdon, Clerk, his park of Blakeley, and all lands, tenements, and woodlands, in Blakeley and Blakeley fields, to hold of the chief Lord of the fee, paying during the first twenty years, thirty-nine marks, viz: vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>, at the feast of St. John the Baptist, at the feast of St. Michael, at the feast of the Nativity of our Lord, and at the Annunciation of the B. Virgin Mary; and afterwards fifty marks per annum; the attesting witnesses being Sir John Stanley, Sir John de Bothe, Sir Ralph de Longworth, Sir Thomas de Asheton, Knts., and Thomas de Stanley, and Gilbert de Radclyffe, Esquires.

On the 1 February, 13 Hen. VI. (1434-5), "Magister Johannes de Huntingdon" attests at Bury, next after Sir Edmund de Trafford, Knt., and Sir Geoffrey de Masey, Knt., the release of Richard de Radclyf of Radclyf, Robert de Pilkynghon, and Henry de Lever, to Sir John de Pilkynghon, Knt., of all the lands, tenements, rents, and services in the vill of Bury, and within the manor, belonging to the said Sir John, and which they had held as trustees.

And on Monday next after the feast of St. Valentine the Martyr, 13 Hen. VI., Sir John de Pilkynghon, Knt., grants to Master John de Huntyngdon, Guardian of the Collegiate Church of B. M. of Manchestr., and to Roger de Bradley, Chaplain, all his Lands, &c., which John de Bradley, Roger de Smethurst, and five others, held within the manor of Bury, and a certain meadow, called Elton Carr, lately held by Thomas de Hulton, Rector of Bury; and the said Master John de Huntingdon and Roger de Bradley appoint William Whithead and Hugh de Clayton to receive seisin from Sir John de Pilkington.

On Monday next after the Feast of St. Leonard, 13 Hen. VI., Master John de Huntingdon attests next after James de Langton, Rector of Wygan, the grant of William, son of Jordan de Workesley, to Sir Edmund de Trafford, Knt., of all his lands in Baudon (Bowdon ?) within Hayfield, in the county of Derby, &c., to secure payment of a certain sum of money advanced to the said William by Sir Edmund, when the former was a prisoner in Lancaster Gaol.

On the 6 Febr., 13 Hen. VI., Thomas [Langley], Lord Bishop of Durham, released all his right in lands, &c., in Bury, which he held as a trustee for Sir John Pilkynghon, Knt.; and these lands were settled on the marriage of Sir John, with Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Edmund Trafford, and are recited in the covenant of her marriage, dated 10 Oct., 30 Hen. VI. (1451), with Peres Legh of Lyme, Esq., on all which occasions Huntingdon occurs. His friends the Pilkingtons, to whom he appears to have been attached through life, were well disposed towards the Church and religious houses, although not the founders of any separate establishment. There was a sort of prescriptive payment of 45s., payable in 1478 by the Abbot of Whalley to the Sir John (Thos.?) Pilkington, whose estates were forfeited after the battle of Bosworth; but the services rendered for it to the Abbey are unknown.

On the 20 April, 16 Hen. VI., Sir John de Pilkynghon appoints Henry and James de Smethurst to deliver seisin of his lands, &c., to Richard de Radclyffe, Rector of Wilmslow, Hugh del Scoles, Priest, &c., then in the possession of his various tenants (whose


names are given) in Bury, Chetham, &c.; and on the 16 June, 16 Hen. VI., at Pilkington, Sir John again enfeoffed Sir Robert de Harington, Sir Edmund de Trafford, and John de Huntynghdon, Clerk, William de Hulme, and Henry de Trafford, of all his manors, lands, &c., in Pilkyngton, Bury, and Chetham.

Warden Huntingdon died at Manchester on the 11 Nov., 1458, having been the zealous and useful head of his Collegiate Church for thirty-six years. He was buried in a vault prepared by himself "at the east end of the choir just going up to the high altar." Dugdale, in recording the inscription on his monument in the Collegiate Church, observes, "Super marmoreum lapidem prostratum in orientali parte chori cernitur effigies hominis habitu Canonici secularis vestiti in lamina æneâ, et sequens epitaphium: **Hic jacet Johannes Huntynghdon Baccalarius in Decretis, primus Magister sive Custos istius Collegii, qui de novo construxit istam Cancellam, qui obiit undecimo die mensis Novembris Ao. D'ni M.CCCC.LVIII. Cujus anime propitiatur Deus.**"

In a list of the Wardens, written probably by Dr. Dee, it is added, after recording Huntingdon's burial before the high altar, "where his Tomb is yeelt above to be seene with his Picktur in brasse in his Priestly garments." There is some obscurity in this description. On the brass plate still remaining he is represented within a niche, with his hands clasped, a ring on the fifth finger of the left hand, robed in an alb, and over his shoulders a cape or scarf. In a label above his head, proceeding from his mouth are the appropriate words — *D'n'e dilexi Decorem Domûs tuæ*. Several of the words on a narrow border of brass, encompassing the gravestone, and originally forming a perfect superscription, have perished, and have been incorrectly supplied by Dr. Hibbert-Ware, who has engraved the Monument.

The limner has been unsuccessful in portraying on the brass the Warden's features. He seems to have been advanced in years, of middle stature, with much amplitude of forehead, and a face full and broad, indicating neither mortification nor asceticism.

There is no deficiency of hair, but the scapular is not seen. The hands are small, and there seems to be much energy in the expression of the countenance.

Dugdale makes no observations on the Arms assigned to Warden Huntingdon ; and there is an error, most probably, in attributing to him the Arms of Hastings in the old list of Wardens. It is not at all likely that he was a member of the Hastings family. The title of the Earl of Huntingdon (from which we might have supposed his name to be derived, if he had been in some way an off-shoot of the Hastings family) was not conferred upon the Hastings' until 1539 ; and the Warden died in 1458. The insertion of the Arms is an obvious anachronism. The Warden never used arms, but always a black letter, , surmounted by a crown.

His Will is dated 13 Nov., 33 Hen. VI. (1454), and expressed as follows : Bee hit knawen unto all men, wher's I, John Huntingdon, Clerke & Warden of the Collage of our Lady of Ma'chester, now of late by my dede have gifen & granted to James Bridde, Hugh Aston, & Nicoll Ravalde, p'istes, & to their heirs & ass. for eu', all the mes'es, burgages, landes, ten'ts, re'tes, & s'uyces, in Manchester, Salford, or in any other place w'in the Counte of Lancast'r, and also in Chest'rfeld, w'in the Shir of Derby, that my s'd feffes shall suffer me & myne assignes duryng all my lyfe to receive the rents, &c., and ymmediatle aft'r my decesse to selle the same to the best auayle & price yai may, Except all the said landes &c in Chest'rfeld, and shall dispose of all such money to the edificac'on, expences, costes, & byggyng of the newe werke by me begon'en of the Chauncell of the Kirke of our Lady of Manchest'r, if so be yat my moveably godes aft'r my decesse suffice noght, nor been sufficiant'y to p'forme the said edificac'on, costes, & byggyng. And if yai then bene sufficiant'y, yt yen yai shall aft'r my decesse dispose the said suche money, rents, &c., except bifor' except'd to P'istes to say Masses & to make & do oy' dyuine s'vyces & prayers for the Sawle of me, the saide John, and of all other yat I am endettet or bounden to prairie for. And as for all the said landes in Chest'rfeld I

wyll yat yai immediate aft'r my decesse g'of enfeoffe my kyneswoman, Elisabeth Baret, to hir & to hir heir' for eu', if sho then be open lyve or haue heir' of hir body lawfully geton, & if sho be then dede and have noon suche heirs, yat yai then shall sell all the said landes in Chest'rfeld and make disposic'on y'of in all thynges as yai do of the other heir' aboue said.—Power to revoke the said Will.—Theis' wytnes Edm'nde Trafford, Geffrey Mascy, Thom. Assheton, Knyghtes, Alexander Radclif, John Trafford, esquyers, and mony others. Gyuen at Manchester ye xiii. day of November the xxxiiij<sup>th</sup> yer' of Kyng Henr' the sixte.—Endorsed "Voluntas Ioh'is huntynghton."

The lands were not disposed of according to the Testator's directions, as by deed dated at "Mamcestr., 10 Dec., 3 Edw. IV. 1463," the three Priests whom he had enfeoffed conveyed to John Bamford and James Chaloner, Chaplains, and William Bamford, all the lands and tenements adjoining Manchester called Netheraldeport and Overaldeport which they had of the gift and feoffment of John Huntynghdon, Clerk, Master or Guardian of the Collegiate Church of B. Mary of Manchester, to hold to certain uses, not declared. And by another indenture dated 22 Edw. IV., 1482, Geoffrey Hulme of Manchester, Raufe Langley, Warden of Manchester and Parson of Prestwich, John Biron, John Radclyffe (of Radclyffe), Esquires, and James Radclyffe (his brother), convey to Richard Bexwicke of Manchester, and Ralph, son and heir apparent of the said Geoffrey Hulme, certain lands and services, apparently part of the estate of Warden Huntingdon. And by another deed, dated 19 July, 22 Hen. VII. (1506), Ralph Hulme granted to Ranulph Poole, Clerk, Sir Oliver Thornelegh, Clerk, Richard Bexwicke, son of Roger Bexwicke of Mamcestr., Ralph Holland of Clayton, William Galey and Seth Galey, and Thomas Bexwicke, son of Richard Bexwicke, all the before-named lands, burgages and rents, which were formerly the property of John Huntingdon in Mamcestr and Salford, excepting certain lands and tenements called Netheraldeport within the manor of Mamcestr., to the use and for the purposes ex-

pressed in a certain indenture made, with the consent of Ralph Hulme and Henry Sedale, by the arbitration of Anthony Fitzherbert and Richard Hesketh, Esquires, learned in the law, dated 30 May, 22 Hen. VII; in which very long Award it is stated that there had been various controversies and debates between Ralph Hulme, Gent., and Sir Henry Sydall, William Bradford, and Richard Mascy, "Prest Vicars" of the same College, respecting the lands and tenements formerly the inheritance of Sir John Huntingdon, Warden of the College of Manchester; and that the contending parties were bound to abide the Award of Fitzherbert and Hesketh; and reciting, further, that Huntingdon's will had not been fulfilled.

Hulme claimed the lands by virtue of purchase of the deceased Warden's right heir; and also of John Ravalde, cousin and next heir of Nicholas Ravalde, the last survivor of the original trustees of Huntingdon; whereas Henry Sydall and others claimed to be feoffees for the performance of the last Will of the said Nicholas Ravalde, Priest, by the feoffment of Sir Thomas Bradford, who was enfeoffed by one Sir John Bamford, Priest, conjointly with other persons, whom the said Sir Thomas survived, and which Sir John Bamford was enfeoffed by the said Nicholas to perform his Will, which refers to and contains the substance of the Will of the Warden touching the premises.

The Arbitrators awarded that a deed should be made by Hulme to the feoffees named in the last recited indenture of all Warden Huntingdon's lands and tenements in Lancashire and elsewhere, except Netheraldport; and the feoffees were empowered to receive out of the rents 100s. a year for a Priest to say mass in the Collegiate Church and to be nominated by Hulme and his heirs for ever; which Priest should pray for the soul of John Huntingdon and his benefactors, for the souls of Geoffrey and Elizabeth, father and mother of the said Raufe Hulme, for the souls of Thomas, late Earl of Derby, and George his son, late Lord Strange, and for the good estate of the said Raufe and Elizabeth (Bexwicke) his wife and their children and heirs, and also for the

good estate of Thomas, Earl of Derby, then living, and for James Stanley, then Bishop of Ely, and for all the feoffees that were or should be seized to the use of the said Chantry lands, and after their decease for their souls and for all Christian souls for ever. And the said Raufe Hulme was enjoined to pay to Sir Henry Sydall, towards his costs and charges in the matter, lx<sup>s</sup>.

The moneys received towards the edification, costs, and building of the said chancel of the Collegiate Church since the death of the Warden, and all Sir Henry Sydall's costs, were to be ordered and decided by Warden Clyff, Thomas Langley, rector of Prestwich, and two others, according to Huntingdon's Will. It was also awarded that a yearly Obit should be kept, with a Dirge, after noon, and a mass of Requiem on the morrow after, with note, for the souls of the said Sir John Huntingdon, his benefactors and others, on the 11th November, being the day on which the said Sir John died. The original award, of which the above is a brief abstract, is attested by the signatures of James, Bishop of Ely, of the awarders, and also by Sydall and Hulme.

On the 24th August, 12 Hen. VI., Warden Huntingdon purchased lands in Hangyngdyche of Reginald West, Lord la Warr, the nephew of his patron, as a site for an Almshouse for poor persons, but his original intention does not appear to have been executed.

Dr. Hibbert's *Hist.*, vol. i. p. 42, appen. p. 380, vol. iv. p. 174; *MS. Holme*, 95, 1, 11, ex. cartul. Ep. Cov. et. Lich., Gastrell's *Not. Cestr.*, part ii. p. 60; *Ib.*, p. 59, note; *Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxiv. p. 409, xxv. pp. 8, 134, xxxviii. pp. 8, 9, 136; Whitaker's *Whalley*, 3rd ed., p. 93; Hollinworth's *Mancuniensis*; *List of Wardens in Coll. Arm.*, inf. Tho. W. King, Esq., York Herald; *Pike House Evid.*

ROGER RADCLYFFE, the sixth and youngest son of James Radclyffe of Radclyffe Tower, Esq., by Joan, daughter of Sir John Tempest of Bracewell, in the county of York, Knt., by Katherine his wife, daughter of Sir Robert Sherburn of Stony-



hurst, in the county of Lancaster, Knt., was born (according to computation of dates) about the year 1405. His eldest brother, Richard Radclyffe, Esq., was High Sheriff and Knight of the Shire in Parliament for his native county, where he had high and influential connections; whilst his second brother, Sir John Radclyffe, K.G., a distinguished soldier in the French wars, was ancestor of the Barons Fitzwalter and Earls of Sussex. His uncle, Thomas Radclyffe, was Abbot of Rushen, in the Isle of Man; and his nephew, Henry Radclyffe, succeeded to the same high office; whilst another near member of his family was the progenitor of the Radclyffes of Dilston, Earls of Derwentwater. (Whitaker's *Whalley*, vol. ii. p. 292.) On the 19 June, 1458, being then styled LL.D., he was collated to the Prebend of Ealdland, in St. Paul's Cathedral, which he held until his death. (Le Neve, vol. ii. p. 383.) On the 11 July, 1465, he was collated to the Archdeaconry of Sarum, which he also held at his death. (*Ib.* p. 625.) He was elected Dean of St. Paul's, 15 December, 1468, and confirmed before the 23rd of the same month; Booth, the Bishop of Durham, having a short time before vacated the Deanery. Radclyffe died before the 28 July, 1471. (*Ib.*, vol. ii. p. 313.)

Early in 1459, Roger Radclyffe, Doctor of Laws, was presented by Lord de la Warr to the Wardenship of Manchester. [In the Charters of the Duchy of Lancaster there is a writ of *Quare impedit*, dated Lancaster, 22 Feb., 1458-9, addressed to the Sheriff of Lancaster, to command Laurence (Booth) Bishop of Durham, Seth Worsley, Esq., and Roger Radclyf, clerk, to permit Richard West, knt., to present to the Collegiate Church of Manchester (xxxvii. *Rept. of Dep. Keeper*, p. 177).] On the 9th December, in the same year, he exchanged the dignity for the Rectory of Adbolton-cum-Holme-Pierrepoint, in the county of Notts., with his neighbour (whilst in Lancashire) John Booth, afterwards Bishop of Exeter. (*Ex. Inst. Lichf.*) In the *Fabric Rolls of York Minster* for the year 1472 or 73, is this entry, "Mortuaria 16s. 8d., de precio equi magistri Rogeri Radclif, nuper preb. de

Masham," "a Lancashire man of considerable rank and preferment." He obtained this stall in 1456, on the resignation of Geo. Neville, elected Bishop of Exeter, afterwards Chancellor of England, and Archbishop of York. (Raine's *Fabric Rolls*, Surtees Soc., p. 79; Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 202.)

JOHN BOOTH, fourth son of Sir Robert Booth (brother of Sir Thomas Booth of Barton), by his wife Dulcia, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Richard Venables, was a member of a great ecclesiastical family. His uncle (in half blood), Lawrence Booth, was successively Bishop of Durham, Archbishop of York, Keeper of the Privy Seal, and Lord High Chancellor; his uncle William was Archbishop of York, and his uncle John held a Prebend in Lincoln Cathedral (Le Neve, vol. ii. p. 195); whilst his younger brothers, Robert and Edmund, were respectively Dean of York and Archdeacon of Stow, and his brother Ralph, Archdeacon of Durham and York. Nor were the family undistinguished in other ways. His cousin, Sir John Booth of Barton, was killed at Flodden; and with his grandson the male line of Booth of Barton ended; whilst from Sir William, the Warden's elder brother, are descended the Booths, Barons Delamer and Earls of Warrington. In the Durham Visitation of 1575, John Booth is erroneously stated to be the son of Roger Booth of Bolingboro' and Master of the Kepier Hospital, and *nephew* of Lawrence, Bishop of Durham. Le Neve states that he was collated to the office of Treasurer of York Cathedral in 1457 and resigned it in 1453, but this is obviously an error. He was collated to the Prebend of Wistow in the same Cathedral by his uncle William, Archbishop of York, in 1457, and to the Prebend of Strensall 11 Aug., 1459, his uncle Lawrence, who had filled Wistow stall, having been made two years before Bishop of Durham. On the 27 May, 1459, John was admitted Archdeacon of Richmond, on the collation of his uncle William the Archbishop of York.

On Dec. 9, 1459, he was appointed Warden of the Collegiate Church of Manchester on the resignation of Dr. Radclyffe. On

the 14 March, 1463-4, he was collated to the Prebend of Mapesbury in St. Paul's Cathedral, which he resigned the year following, being collated, 28 March, 1464, a few months before the death of his uncle, to the Prebend of Bole in York Minster. He held this preferment for a short time only, being deprived of all his dignities and promotions in the following year by Edward IV., owing to his adherence to the rival house of Lancaster. He had probably found it convenient to change his political views, as he was shortly afterward restored to the royal favour, and having been promoted to the See of Exeter by the Pope in 1465 (5 Ed. IV.), he was consecrated February 22, 1466, according to Newcourt, and on the 23 February, 1465-6, according to Le Neve. On the 12 June, 1465, he had obtained the royal assent and the restitution of the temporalities (*i.e.* his Baronage), when he resigned the Wardenship. In the list of Wardens in the College of Arms, he is erroneously stated to have been Bishop of Exeter in the time of Henry VI., "when the dissention of Lancaster and York fell out ; and taking part with Lancaster, he was fined when Edward IV. of York came to the Crown," "as the recordes of the Tower doe testifye." It does not appear that he was a benefactor to Manchester, although born in the immediate neighbourhood. He ably governed his Church of Exeter, and built the Bishop's throne in the Choir, an exquisite piece of work such as no Church in England, according to Newcourt, can shew the like. It is admitted that he was a liberal Churchman and devoted large sums to the beautifying of his Cathedral ; and he lived in great reputation. Being weary of the great troubles between Edward IV. and the Earl of Warwick, the Bishop retired from Court and lived in quiet at his country house in Hampshire ; and dying 1 April, 1478, at East Horsley in Surrey, he was buried in the Church of St. Clement Danes, London, his brother Hammond, or Hamo, Booth, LL.B., being at that time the Rector. His epitaph, however, might lead to the conclusion that he was buried at Horsley, where he died, as in the Church is the following record on a plate of brass :

Quisquis eris, qui transieris, Sta : perlege : plora :  
Sum quod eris, fueramq' quod es, Pro me, precor, ora.  
Hic jacet Johannes Boothe quondam Episcopus  
Exon. qui obiit v die mensis Apr. An. Dom.  
MCCCCLXXVIII.

His brother, Mr. Robert Booth, Dean of York, was appointed supervisor of the will of their nephew, George Booth of Dunham Massey, county of Chester, Esq., dated 17 March, 1480; and the Dean dying at York, 25 January, 1487-8, was buried in the Cathedral. His will is dated 23 January 1487-8, and was proved at York, 8 August following. This Ecclesiastic appears to have borne the arms of his family, *argent* 3 boars' heads erased erect *sable*; in chief a label of 3 points *gu.*; but a remarkable feature in the list of the Wardens in the College of Arms is that the armorial bearings of Boothe have impaled with them, on the sinister side, *argent* a fesse engrailed *gules*, being the Arms of Bamford of Bamford in the county of Lancaster, and which, unless some mistake has been made, seems to be unaccountable for that period. The arms of De la Warr bear a close resemblance to those of Bamford, being *arg. a fesse dancette sab.*

Baines' *Hist. Lanc.*, vol. iii. p. 113; *Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xii.; Booth, vol. xxxviii. p. 553; Le Neve, vol. iii. pp. 161-2, 175, 215, 226; Newcourt, vol. i. p. 275; Goodwin, p. 615; Ormerod's *Chesh.*, vol. ii. p. 17; Le Neve, vol. i. p. 376, vol. ii. p. 407, vol. iii. p. 140; Jenkins' *Hist. Exeter*; *List of Wardens in Coll. Arm.*, inf. Tho. W. King Esq., York Herald.

EDMUND LANGLEY succeeded John Booth, when deprived of his preferment by Edward IV. in 1465. He held the dignity for a very short time, as on the 9 November in the same year Mr. Ralph Langley, Rector of Prestwich, was nominated and appointed to it. Edmund Langley does not occur in any Catalogue of the Wardens, nor is there any notice of his appointment amongst the records of the See at Lichfield; and yet he is expressly named as "Eadmund Longley, *late Master or Warden of the Collegiate*

*Church of the Blessed Mary in Manchester,"* in a grant of a messuage to Thomas Langton of Lowe, brother of Gilbert Langton, situate in Hindley, in the tenure of William Kersley, and also a fee farm rent, with the appurtenances, of John Sale, from his tenement in the tenure of James Cleworth in the same town, to hold to the said Thomas Langton for his life, with remainder to the said Gilbert and the heirs of his body, and which the late Warden had by the gift of the said Gilbert. This deed is dated at Hindley on Monday next after the feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul, in the third year of Richard the third, 14 July, 1485. Attested by John Langton, Parson of the Church of Wigan, John Longley, Robert Chernock, esquires, Hugh Hyndley and others.

RALPH LANGLEY, second son of Sir Robert Langley of Agecroft, near Manchester, Knt., by his wife Katherine, daughter of Sir William Atherton of Atherton, in the same county, Knt., probably obtained the Wardenship by purchase on the death of his relative, the last Warden, as the patron, Richard (West) Lord Delawarr, ceded the nomination, *pro hac vice*, to Richard Hatfield and Nicholas Statham, who thereupon presented him. According to Dodsworth, he was not a remote relative of Thomas Langley, the Cardinal Bishop of Durham, and Lord Chancellor, whose name frequently occurs in deeds about Manchester, and in South Lancashire, during his episcopate. It seems more probable, however, that whilst both these ecclesiastics were of the same family, the Cardinal was descended from the Langleys of Langley, in the adjoining parish of Middleton, and the Warden from the collateral house of Agecroft. The Langleys were descended from the Tetlaws thus: Jordan Tetlaw married Amabele, daughter of John Radcliffe, and had a son Jordan, whose daughter and heiress married . . . . . Langley. Their son and heir, Roger Langley, was the father of Robert, whose son Thomas was living A.D. 1480. (*Vide* I. D. 4, 98. *Coll. Arm.*, London.)

On the 25 April, 6 Hen. V. (1418), Henry del Bothe, Thurstan

de Langley, Parson of Prestwich, Hugh de Bromburgh, Chaplain, and Richard de Middleton, Chaplain, appoint Richard Folkton their attorney to give seisin of lands belonging to the Booths situate in Barton and Flixton, to Sir John le Buron, Knt, Robert de Langley, Esq. (father of the Warden), and William del Bothe, Canon of Southwell. And on the 8 Sept, 33 Hen. VI. (1454), Thomas de Langley, Esq., son and heir of Robert, and elder brother of the Warden, attests at Scroby, in the county of Notts., with Sir Thomas de Assheton, Knt. (whose sister he had married) and Nicholas Byron, Esq., the grant and confirmation of William Bothe, Archbishop of York and Legate of the Apostolic See (their relative), and Sir Robert Bothe of Barton, of all the lands in Salford, Flixton, Hulme and Croft, in the county of Lancaster, to Thomas, son and heir of Sir Thomas Bothe, Knt., which they, the said Archbishop and Sir Robert Bothe, had of their father, John Bothe, Esq., in trust.

Robert Langley of Agecroft, Esq., and Thomas, his son, were mentioned to be specially prayed for by name in the king's licence granted to Archbishop William Bothe and others for the chantry of S. Katharine, in Eccles Church, dated Scroby, 6 May, 1460.

Ralph Langley became Rector of Prestwich, probably on the death of Thurstan de Langley, as the Manchester Chronicler states, "which same (family) was allways Parson of Prestwich;" and he is so styled on November 9, 1465, on succeeding to the Wardenship. [The Catalogue of the Rectors of Prestwich, vol. vi. *Cheth. Miscell.*, p. 29, states that he succeeded to Prestwich, 20 August, 1445, on the death of Peter Longley.] The advowson of Prestwich was obtained by his ancestor, Richard de Langley, in marriage with Joanna, daughter and heir of Jordan de Tetlaw, by his wife Alice, the descendant and representative of Adam de Prestwich, the feudal lord, and had continued in the Langley family from, at least, the beginning of the 14th century.

On the day of the feast of S. Bartholomew the Apostle, 32 Hen. VI. (1453), "Rauf Langley p'son of ye kyrke of Pstwyth,"

leased for three years all the tithes, oblations, and emoluments of the Chapelry of Oldham (parcel of his extensive Rectory), to Sir Henry Pendlebury, Chantry Priest (apparently of Cardinal Langley's foundation) of Middleton. On the 10 Nov., 8 Edw. IV. (1468), "Rauf Langley Warden of Manchester" was a trustee of the lands of Geoffrey Hulme of Hulme : and he occurs simply as "Rauf Langley Clerk," 15 Edw. IV. (1476), and on the 20 Oct., 19 Edw. IV. (1479-80), as Rauf Longley, Warden of Manchester and Parson of Prestwich.

On the 4 Nov., 1476, he covenanted with certain architects, masons and builders, to erect at Oldham the nave of the Church there which had fallen into decay, for the stipulated sum of xxviii<sup>li</sup> vj<sup>s</sup> viij<sup>d</sup>. All the items are minutely recorded, and the Rector himself liberally contributed to the undertaking by supplying at his own costs the stone, lime, scaffolding, &c., and the work was to be completed by Easter Day, 1479,—a long period for Church works which could not be very considerable. No mention is made of a *Tower* for the Church, but that one existed at that time is evident from an indenture dated 24 Sept., 1486, whereby "Raufe Longley, Parson of Prestwych," acknowledged to have received x<sup>li</sup> part of xx<sup>li</sup> to be raised by the inhabitants of Oldham for the purchasing of three bells for their Chapel, and the Rector agreed to bear certain expences in procuring and hanging the said bells in the tower of the Church. After a lapse of nearly four centuries the Church of Oldham possesses a peal of twelve bells, said to be the finest in the diocese.

Warden Langley was evidently a devout admirer of this ancient and delightful ecclesiastical music. Hollinworth records that he gave the first chimes to the Collegiate Church of Manchester ; but in the *MS. List of Wardens* in the College of Arms it is stated, "he made the Clocke and Chime in Manchester Church with his owne handes," from which it appears that his mechanical skill had been considerable. His individual acts of charity and piety, like Warden Huntingdon's, added new leaves to the book of Ecclesiastical renown in Manchester, proving that

he had not only inherited the blood, but also the liberality and virtues of his ancestors. The portion of the Collegiate Church "between the Pulpit and the Steeple" was built during his Wardenship. On the 12 June, 20 Edw. IV. (1480), "Radulphus Langley, Magister sive Custod. Coll. B. Marie de Mamcestr.," attested a deed of Nicholas Raval, John Bamford, James Chaloner, Fellows, and William Bamford, of lands granted to John Birch of Manchester, gent.

The statement of Hollinworth and others that Langley resigned the Wardenship on the 27 July, 1481, and retired to his parsonage of Prestwich, is incorrect, as on the 21 August in that year he was collated by Kemp, Bishop of London (nephew of the Cardinal Archbishop), as "Warden of the Collegiate Church of Manchester," to the Prebend of Holywell, *alias* Finsbury, in St. Paul's Cathedral, London. He exchanged his Wardenship with James Stanley for this stall, having the consent of King Edw. IV; and Bishop Gastrell erroneously styles him, "Warden and Parson of Prestwich," 22 Edw. IV. (1482). On the 26 October, 1482, he attests next after Sir John Trafford, Knt., as Rector of the Church of Prestwich, but his dignity of Warden is omitted. Stanley and Langley probably owed their Prebendal preferment to their personal knowledge of Bishop Kemp, who had been Archdeacon of Richmond, as well as to their high family connections, and we may hope to higher considerations.

He seems to have died about 1493, and was buried in the Rector's Chapel at Prestwich, as his successor was appointed at St. Paul's on the 15 April in that year; and about the same time he was succeeded at Prestwich by his nephew, Ralph Longley, Bachelor in Decrees, who was instituted 1 May, 1493, on the presentation of Robert Longley, Esq., by the death of Sir Ralph Longley the last Rector; and on the 4 Sept., 1498, he resigned the living, the patron, Robert Langley, Esq., presenting Thomas Langley, the friend of Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, the Beswickes and Hulmes, and also the friend and executor of Isabel, widow of Robert Chetham, Gent., Founder of Jesus Chapel in the Collegiate Church.



On the 19 July, 1506, this Rector was a party to the final settlement of the fabric trust estate of Warden Huntingdon, which had been in dispute in the time of his uncle the late Warden, and was only settled after much unseemly litigation. In 1523 he is described as "Sir Thomas Langley *late* Parson of Prestwich," and occurs along with "Sir William Langley, *now* Parson of the same."

The Warden's Arms are those of his family, derived from the feudal house of Prestwich,—*Argent* a Cockatrice *Sable*, beaked and wattled *gules*; and pedigrees of families of Langley in the Visitations of the county of York, in the College of Arms, have had the bearing allowed, attributed to this Warden; but there is no entry of Langley of Agecroft, except that of the last direct heir male of the house, Sir Robert Langley, who died 1 *Eliz.*, leaving issue four daughters and coheiresses.

Booker's *Memor. of Prestwich*, p. 190; Assheton's *MS. List of Fellows*; *Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xvi. pp. 340, 350–2, xxiv. pp. 408, 413; Trafford *Evid.*, pp. 54, 224, 229; Hibbert's *Coll. Ch. of Manchester*, app., p. 380; Gastrell's *Notit. Cestr.*, vol. ii. pp. 60–62, note; Newcourt's *Reper.*, vol. i. p. 160; Le Neve, vol. ii. p. 395; *List of Wardens in Coll. Arm.*, inf. Tho. Wm. King, Esq., York Herald; *Inst. Bk. Lichf.*

JAMES STANLEY (1) was fourth and youngest son of Thomas first Lord Stanley, K.G., and by his mother descended from the Princess Elizabeth Plantagenet, daughter of King Edw. I. On the 26 August, 1458, he was installed Prebendary of Holywell *alias* Finsbury in St. Paul's. In 1478, he was collated to the Archdeaconry of Chester (not Carlisle, as said in Brydges, Collins). On 1 Nov., 1479, he [*rectius*, the next Warden] had the Prebend of Dunham, in Southwell Collegiate Church, on the resignation of Gervas Clifton, being succeeded 24 April, 1485, by his friend and neighbour in Lancashire, Edmund Chaderton. In 1481, he exchanged his stall in St. Paul's with Ralph Langley, for the Wardenship of Manchester, being installed on the 27 July, and

presented to the dignity by Thomas la Warre, Knt., the patron.

On the 27 July, 1484, 2 Ric. III., Thomas Lord Stanley, great constable of England, *Mr. James Stanley, Archdeacon of Chester*, Sir William Stanley, Knt., Chamberlain of Chester (all brothers), were appointed arbitrators to settle a dispute betwixt John Manwaring of Pevor, Esq., on the first part, Edmund Trafford of Trafford and Margaret his wife, on the second part, touching the jointure lands of John Honford and Margaret his wife, daughter of the said Manwaring. During his Wardenship he engaged to maintain "all the privileges of the franchise," which, doubtless, refers to the sanctuary and its ancient and questionable privileges. Its defence by the Warden may excite a little surprise, as the sanctuary precincts were generally inhabited by the most desperate and worthless members of society, who sought sanctuary after committing robbery, murder (blode-wyte), and other dark deeds; so that from prime to compline the neighbourhood of the Collegiate Church would be little better than a pandemonium, and the Warden and his Fellows were bound to protect at once the privilege and these desperadoes in vice. Hollinworth correctly states that Stanley held the Wardenship only four years, and Le Neve gives his death in 1486, Christopher Talbot being admitted as his successor in the Archdeaconry of Chester, on the 7 June in that year. Considerable confusion has been made by there having been two successive Wardens of the name of James Stanley, some biographers having omitted one of them altogether, and others having attributed wrong preferment to them both. This Warden is not in the *MS. List* in the College of Arms, nor in Assheton's *MS.*

His Arms were *Arg.* on a bend *az.*, three bucks' heads cabossed *or*, with a martlet as the mark of a fourth son,—the same as the Stanleys Earls of Derby.

Collins (Brydges), vol. iii. p. 56; Le Neve, vol. i. p. 567, iii. p. 419; Newcourt, vol. i. p. 160; Trafford *Evid., Lanc. MSS.*, p. 146; Hollinworth's *Mancun.*; Hibbert-Ware's *Hist. Coll. Ch. Manch.*, vol. i. p. 48.

JAMES STANLEY (2) was the sixth and youngest son of Thomas, second Lord Stanley and first Earl of Derby, Constable of England, by his first wife the Lady Eleanor, daughter of Richard Neville, Earl of Salisbury and sister of Warwick, "the King-Maker." He became a scholar of the University of Oxford, and on the 18 June, 1506, he was licensed to proceed D.C.L, which was granted with some conditions ; and on the 29 January, 1507, the congregation of regents with the non-regents granted that he, then Bishop of Ely, might be created Doctor of Degrees, by a cap put on his head by Warham, Archbishop of Canterbury, and Fitz James, Bishop of London, which being done with solemnity he acknowledged the honour in a letter of thanks to the University. He graduated at Cambridge as well as at Oxford. (Cooper's *Ath. Cant.*, p. 16.) In 1458 he became Prebend. of Holywell in St. Paul's Cathedral, and held the stall until 1481. On the 11 November, 1460, he was collated by Archbishop William Booth, the great patron of Lancashire men, to the Prebendal stall of Driffeld in York Cathedral, and in 1479 to the Prebend of Dunham in the Church of Southwell. He was appointed Precentor of Salisbury, 20 March, 1484-5, *vice* Edward Pole, but does not appear to have been collated until 10 September, 1505, and vacated it in the year following on obtaining higher promotion. In 1485-6 (22 July, 1485, Cooper's *Ath. Cant.*), Browne Willis states that he resigned his stall at York on becoming Warden of Manchester, on the death of his uncle. His presentation, dated 22 July, 1485, is by "Thomas West, and La Warre Lord of Manchester, the Patron"; and he is described as "James Stanley Clerk," the place being vacant by the death of Sir James Stanley. (*Ex. Record. Lichf.*) In 1491 he became Prebend of Yetminster Prima, in Salisbury Cathedral, which he exchanged in the following year for the more lucrative Prebend of Bedminster Prima, in the same Church. In 1493 he occurs as Dean of St. Martin's-le-Grand, London ; and it is worthy of note, that in 1382 Thomas de Stanley was collated to a Prebend at Lichfield, which he exchanged in 1399 with Dr. William Assheton for the same St.

Martin's Deanery in London, and afterward became Dean of Wells.

By a deed of Arbitration, dated 20 February, 10 Hen. VII. (1494), Thomas Couper and James Gartside of Oakenrod, gent., were bound to John Chadwick, son and heir of John Chadwick, gent., in xl. marks, to be paid on the Feast of St. Chad the Bishop, to abide the award of Mr. James Stanley, Clerke, and Warden of Manchester, "to bee geven by y<sup>e</sup> sayd Mr. James in wrytyng, under his seale affore y<sup>e</sup> feast of th'annunciation of o<sup>r</sup> blessed Ladie the Virgin next." On the 19 November, 1500, he was appointed Archdeacon of Richmond, *vice* Christopher Urswick resigned, and admitted 5 December, 1500. After holding the office six years he resigned it, being at that time Warden of Manchester.

By deed dated 1 Oct., 17 Hen. VII. (1501), Robert Chetham of Manchester, gent., enfeoffed Mr. James Stanley, Archdeacon of Richmond and Warden of the College Church of our Blessed Ladye of Manchester, Sir William Bradford, Priest, Richard Bexwicke the elder, Richard Bexwicke the younger, James Radcliffe, Richard Hunt, and Adam Holland of Manchester, *Marchants*, their heirs and assigns for ever, of messuages, lands, &c., for the endowment of a Chantry within the said "College Church," the Warden of the College and one of the Vicars to be perpetual feoffees, with power for the Warden and "two of the most eldest Vicars of the College," the Churchwardens of the said Church, and the feoffees, for the time being, to remove the chantry Priest for criminous conduct. On the 23 April, 15 Hen. VIII., "Mr. James Stanley Archdeacon of Richmond and late Bishop of Ely," and all the original feoffees, except Richard Hunt, were dead. 21 June, 22 Hen. VII., James, Bishop of Ely released to Ralph Hulme, his heirs and assigns for ever, all the right which the said Bishop had or hereafter might have, in all the messuages, lands and tenements in Manchester and elsewhere in the county of Lancaster, which formerly belonged to John Huntingdon, Warden of the Coll. of B. M. of Manchester. The

signature is bold and distinct — “Ja. Elien” — the seal small and broken.

He was advanced to the spiritualities of the See of Ely by the Bull of Provision of Pope Julius II., dated 17 July, 1506, and on the 5 November, 1506, Henry VII. restored to him the temporalities of the See, which had accumulated during a vacancy of nine months to nearly 2,500*l*. He is described at this time as Dean of St. Martin's, London, and Archdeacon of Richmond, both of which dignities he vacated in 1506; but held the Wardenship of Manchester *in commendam*. Godwin styles him Doctor of Divinity.

In 1506, as “Master or Custos” of the Collegiate Church of Manchester, Dr. Stanley, along with the Fellows of the same, being “Rectors and proprietors of the said Church,” having maturely and deliberately considered the subject, granted their licence to the founders of a certain Chapel on the eastern part of the Collegiate Church, lately built to the glory of God the Saviour, and in honour of the name of JESUS, by Richard Bexwicke junior, Richard Bexwicke senior, and others of the guild of St. Saviour, on certain conditions. The Warden's seal is appended to the deed, being the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, with arms folded, within the Vesica piscis, and her body irradiated. On two shields are the Arms of Gresley and De la Warr.

In 1506 he resigned the Rectory of Walton-on-the-Hill, and Richard Dudley, M.A., was instituted on the 12 August, on the presentation of Mr. Edmund Dudley, by grant from Edmund Molyneux, Esq. (*Inst. Book Lichf.*) And on the 18 March, 1507-8, Hugh Hill, Chaplain, was instituted to the parish Church of Rotherstone (Rostherne, county of Chester), vacant by the consecration of James Stanley to the Bishoprick of Ely, on the presentation of Thomas Lovell, knight, and Edmund Dudley Esq. (*Ibid.*)

In the *MS. History of the Wardens* in the College of Arms it is recorded that “at Manchester he built a most sumptuous Chappell on ye North side of the Church being xxviii yards long

and ix yards broad, and a square Chappell on ye North side of that againe hee built. He built the South side of the Woodworke in the Quire ; ye seates for ye Warden, Fellowes and Churchmen (choristers ?) being xxx seates on both sydes (and Mr. Richard Beswicke that built Jesus Chappell, builded th'other syde"). Although it is distinctly recorded that he built the large Chapel dedicated to S. John the Baptist, as well as the small one on its north side, in 1513, it has been conjectured that he was only the co-founder of these Chapels, and that his natural son was united with him. The only ground for this supposition seems to be that over the door of the north chantry were the Arms of Stanley (base line) impaling Honford, and an inscription in Latin, which is now gone, but which existed in 1632. Nor is the generally received opinion correct that the oak tabernacle work on the north side of the choir was erected by Richard Beck, who, although a liberal Churchman and a connection of the Bexwicks, had no part in it.

Warden Stanley's munificence was not confined to Manchester, as he was a considerable benefactor to Jesus College, Cambridge, having, 22 Hen. VII., impropriated to the use of the College the Rectory of Great Shelford in Cambridgeshire, partly for the foundation of a Fellowship, in the exclusive nomination and appointment of the Bishops of Ely, as well as another Fellowship in the same University, the patronage of which he annexed to that see ; and to him the College owed its first set of Statutes, which he got confirmed by Pope Julius II. He also founded a Grammar School in the College, with a master and usher, which was held in the buildings situated "between the tower and the Fellows' gardens."

Bishop Stanley acceded to the request of his devout and liberal step-mother, Margaret Countess of Richmond and Derby, for the suppression of the Hospital of St. John the Evangelist in Cambridge ; and her son, the King, granted her a licence for that purpose and for the endowment of St. John's College on its site [cf. *State Papers, For. and Dom., Henry VIII.*, No. 406, 7 Aug.,

1509, p. 55 of *Calendar*]; but the foundation was temporarily suspended by the deaths of the King and Foundress occurring within a few months of each other. In carrying out the intentions of the Lady Margaret's Will, Bishop Fisher and her other executors had to contend with many difficulties and much opposition, especially as the Bishop of Ely was no longer willing to consent to the dissolution of the Hospital. Every difficulty was at length overcome by the persevering labours of Bishop Fisher, and the old Hospital was dissolved 20 January, 1510; and in 1515, a few months after the death of Bishop Stanley, the building of St. John's College was finished and solemnly opened in the year following. The Bishop also built the Rectory house or Palace of the See of Ely, at Somersham, in the county of Hunts., where he resided and kept great hospitality.

On the 28 November, 11 Hen. VIII. (1519), in a suit regarding Theile Moor and the Boundaries of Manchester Parish, in the Duchy Court, "John Thorpe, æt. 85, deposed that he was tenant to the Earl of Sussex, and was present when James Stanley, Clerk, Warden of Manchester, did meet upon Theile Moor, and there did tend the Meres between that Parish and the Parish of Oldham, and did take an order at the same time that none should drive but with a little Dog and a Wand of one year's growing." (*Chetham Evid. MS.*) In a suit about the Tithes of Manchester and the Boundaries of the Parish, May 1601, it was deposed that the boundaries were set long since by one James Stanley, Bishop of Ely, and Warden of the College of Manchester, and that on the 8 January, 1592, an order was made by Henry, Earl of Derby, upon an Inquisition and Certificate made by Justices of the Peace, that certain parts of Theile Moor were in the Parish of Manchester, and the rest within the Parish of Prestwich, and so to be taxed and assessed in all taxations for her Majesty's service. (*Ib.*)

The Wardenship of Manchester was resigned by the Bishop in 1506, and his preferments, though various, do not appear to have been indecently accumulated, but to have been vacated from time to time. It has been said, but apparently on insufficient

ground, that he was indebted for them to the powerful influence of his step-mother, the Lady Margaret; and Baker says, the Bishop's appointment to Ely was the worst thing the Lady Margaret ever did. He was one of the supervisors, although not a legatee, of the will of his father, Thomas, first Earl of Derby, dated July 28, 1504, in which will the Earl besought his son-in-law, the king, "to be a good Lord" to James Stanley, his son, whom he had charged on his blessing to do as good service as lay in his power, and so to continue during his life, to the king and all his.

The Bishop afterwards had an opportunity of showing his devoted loyalty to the royal house of Tudor; and it seems to be admitted that his activity in raising troops in Lancashire and Cheshire, contributed materially to the victory at Flodden, in 1513, where his grand-son, "yonge John Stanley," commander of his contingent, was for his bravery knighted on the field of battle. In the poem of "The Scottish Field," printed by the Chetham Society, it seems that the Earl of Surrey sent from Pontefract, where he then was located, to Manchester or Lathom, to the Bishop, who was probably with his relatives at this time, although the poet records that "he bode in those partes." It is clear, however, that he had relinquished the dignity of Warden of Manchester. He was commanded to summon the shire in the king's name, and to see the army raised and put in battle array, he being "put in more power than any other Prelate." His efforts were eminently successful, and they are minutely detailed. He is described (ll. 372-395) as

" . . . . a Bishop full bolde  
that borne was at Lathum,  
Of Eley that ylke lorde  
that epe was of deedes !  
An egg of that bolde erle  
that named was Standley,  
Nere of nature to the Duke  
that noble have been ever ;  
But now death with his dart  
hath driven him awaye !  
It is a losse to the lande,  
our Lorde have his soule !

For his witte and his wisdom,  
and his wale deedes,  
He was a pillar of peace  
the people amonge ;  
His servants they mair syke  
and sorrow for his sake,  
What for pitie and for paine  
my pen doth me fayle.  
I will medle with this matter  
No more at this tyme,  
But he that his makles of mercie  
have mynd on his soule !"



Notwithstanding poetic eulogy, we may fairly conclude that the Bishop was not exactly endowed with those high qualifications which were indispensable in a dignified ecclesiastic, and the want of which in a prelate must have been felt as calamitous to the spiritual interests of the Church. Habits and tempers like his would fan the smouldering embers of the Reformation which, over-ruled by Providence, ultimately burst into a flame which purified the Church and gave light to the world. His friend and legate, Dr. Standish (who was probably one of his chaplains), was afterwards Bishop of St. Asaph, and the opponent of Erasmus and Dean Colet.

The Bishop had some commendable regard to his final resting place, and wished his dust to repose in his own county and, if it might be, in his own Church. It was his belief which prompted the dying wish; and it may be said of him as of the old Patriarch that "by faith he gave commandment concerning his bones," for, notwithstanding his failings, he believed in *Jesus* as "the Resurrection and the Life," and I have met with no evidence to corroborate the popular tradition that he died under the sentence of excommunication. The report is that his body was not permitted to be buried within the walls of a church, but that filial piety placed the remains of the bishop as near the sacred building as possible, and afterwards, in conformity with the dictates of right feeling, enclosed them by adding a small projecting edifice.

This is mere conjecture and opposed to temporary statements. In 1545, the Chantry Commissioners reported to the King that the chantry in the new chapel within the parish church of Manchester was of the foundation of James Stanley, Bishop of Ely, to celebrate there for the souls of the said Bishop and his ancestors, and the inscription over the door of the large chapel which asked for prayers for James, Bishop of Ely, John Stanley, Knight, and Margaret his wife, and their Parents, *who built the said Chapel*, would lead to the conclusion that various members of the family had contributed to the foundation, some of whom had died long before it was built.

The Bishop's Will is dated xx March 1514-15, and he styles himself "by the sufferance of our Lord God, Bishop of Ely. My body to be buried in a new Chapel in my Cathedral church of Ely, or else in my new Chapel now in building at Manchester. I will that the chapel be made for me to be buried and rest my bones in at the east end of my Cathedral Church, for the which I will c marks to be bestowed upon walls, iron work, glass and covering, besides my tomb, on which tomb I will xl marks be bestowed by the advice of Master Alday, Sir Ranulph Pole, and Sir John Claydon my Receiver. I give and bequeath to remain in the said Chapel a Chalice gilt, &c. I will that another Chapel be builded and made at Manchester, on the north side of the Church betwixt St. James' Chapel and the east end of the same Church, with a tomb therein for me, by advice of Master Alday, Master Warden of Manchester, with xx<sup>li</sup> a year for finding two Priests to sing in my said Chapel; to Doctor Standish, xl<sup>s</sup>. I will that Sir John Stanley, knight, Thomas Stanley his brother, William Serjaunt and Alexander Tyldesley be my executors. Proved 23 May 1515, at Canterbury." (*Testamenta Vetusta*, p. 535, from *Lansdown MS.*, p. 949.)

It seems probable that Sir John Stanley completed the smaller chantry agreeably to the directions of his grandfather's will, and within it his lordship's remains were interred. A square tomb of grey marble was erected, on the table of which is still to be seen a small effigy of the Bishop, in brass, in his pontifical robes, and the arms of Stanley and his Bishoprick quartered, with this inscription:—

**Om̃ pur charite pray for the soule of James Stanley sūtyme  
bushype of Ely and Warden of this Colledge of Manchester  
which decensed oute of this transitory worlde the xx<sup>ii</sup> daie of  
March, y<sup>e</sup> yer of our Lord God M.CCCC & XV. upon whos  
soul and all Christian Soules Ihesu have mercy.**

**Vide deo gratus, toto mundo tumultatus.**

**Crimine mundatus, semper transire paratus.**

**Illis hominum usque quo gravi corde ut quid illigitis  
vanitatem et queritis mendacium**

**Utinam saperent et intelligerent, ac nobissima providerent.**

There is a line etching of this Brass in Dr. H. Ware's *Hist. Coll. Ch. of Manchester*, I. vol. ii. p. 322. On many parts of the glass in the Chapel was the motto, *Memorate novissima*. The Metrical History of the House of Stanley bestows upon him the following lines :

He did end his lyfe in merrie Manchester  
And ryght honourably lyeth he buried there  
In his Chappell, which he began of freestone ;  
Syr John Stanley built it owt when he was gone.  
God send his Sowle to the heavenly companye.  
Farewell, godlye James, Bysshop of Elye.

This poem has been erroneously attributed to him by Collins, who had evidently not seen it. Its author was Thomas Stanley, Bishop of Sodor and Man, son of Edward first Lord Montegle but Seacome is wrong in stating that he ultimately became the second Lord Montegle. In the same poem the Bishop of Ely is described :—

His third sonne was James, a goodlye man, a priest ;  
Yet little Priests' mettle was in him, by Christ.  
\* \* \* \* \*  
A goodly tall man as was in all England  
And spedd well all matters that he took in hand.

He was one of the representative men of his day, entering, like other members of his family, into the leading political questions, and taking his part in the discussion of the great principles which agitated the country. Notwithstanding Godwin's unjust remark, that he died without performing any one thing worthy to be remembered, his name deserves to be rescued from obloquy, and there are numerous proofs of his liberality, generosity, and public spirit. His chief failing seems to have been a violation of the vow of celibacy, for which he probably obtained a dispensation.

(Wood's *Athen. Oxon.*, vol. ii. pp. 704-7 ; Newcourt's *Repertorium*, vol. i. pp. 160-1 ; Le Neve, vol. i. pp. 601, 161, vol. ii. p. 643, vol. iii. p. 140 ; Collins (Brydges), vol. iii. p. 65 ; *Hist. of Chadwick Fam.*, 4to. p. 562 ; MS. in Coll. Arm. c. 37 ; Dr. Hibb.-Ware's *Hist. Coll. Ch.* vol. i. p. 50, app. p. 382, and vol. ii. p. 327 ; Willis'

*Hist. York Cath.*, vol. i. p. 131; Ormerod's *Hist. Chesh.*, vol. iii. p. 641; Harl. Bibl., 2129, p. 66; Robson's *Flodden, Chetham Miscell.*, vol. 2; Wordsworth's *Eccles. Biog.*, vol. iii. p. 305; Knight's *Life of Colet*; *Hist. of House of Stanley*, p. 119; *Hist. Lanc. Chantries*, p. 28 seq.; Heywood's *Verse Writers, Stanley Papers*, part 1; Godwin's *de Presul.*, ed. 1616, p. 331; *Memor. of Cambr.*, Wright and Jones, vol. i. p. 6, Jesus Coll.; Cooper's *Athen. Cantabr.*, vol. i. p. 16).

Prior Robert Stuart has, in a few words, in his *Anglia Sacra*, described the Bishop as "Armīs quam libris peritior." On the 15 June, 1812, the Bishop's tomb was reverently opened, in the presence of the Rev. C. D. Wray, M.A., at that time one of the chaplains of the Collegiate Church; by Mr. Thomas Baritt, the Antiquary, and others; but nothing was discovered except bones. The Bishop appeared to have been a tall man, and to have been rightly described by the family poet, as to stature. Dugdale has preserved the arms of the Bishop's family, impaling those of his see.

There is some confusion as to the Bishop's natural son and his grandsons. It might seem that the "Young John Stanley," who was at Flodden, was not the son but the grandson of the Bishop of Ely, and that the aged Prelate in his will appointed his two grandsons his executors, and that John Stanley, of Elford, was not the Bishop's son. On the 26 May, 1494, 10 H. VII., John Stanley of Elford, Esq., William Tatton, Robert Chauntrell, John Ashley, Thomas Fitton of Pownall, and Edward Buckley, give and confirm to Thomas Leicester, Thomas Hawardyn, Peter Leicester and Robert Leicester all the messuages, lands, rents, and services in Chorley, Fulshagh, and Werford, held of them by certain tenants to Hold during the life of Agnes, then wife of Robert Honford Jun<sup>r</sup> Rem<sup>r</sup> after her death to John Stanley, Son of John Stanley, of Elford, Esq., and Agnes, dau<sup>r</sup> of the said Robert Honford, Jun<sup>r</sup> and the heirs of the body of the said John and Agnes, lawfully begotten, for ever. But if John Stanley the Son had no lawful issue by the said Agnes, Rem<sup>r</sup>

to the said Agnes and the lawful issue of her body. In default Rem<sup>r</sup> to the right heirs of Robert Honford, Sen<sup>r</sup> Father of the said Robert Honford, Jun<sup>r</sup>. Witness Sir Geoffrey Massey kt. William Davenport of Bromhall and Thomas Leigh of Leigh Esquires. Dat. at Chorley 26 May 10 Hen. VII. And yet noticing this settlement on 4 Hen. VIII. (1513) William Honford of Honford, Esq. (and others) was a feoffee of Sir Edmund Trafford of Trafford, kt., of a parcel of land for a Chantry at Wilmslow. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxxvii. pp. 137-8; *Trafford Evid.*)

Sir John Stanley of Honford, kt., the Bishop's illegitimate Son, bore arms *Or, three Eagles' legs erased gules, on a chief azure as many stags' heads caboshed of the first.*

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ROBERT CLIFF, supposed to be a native of Cheshire, and probably descended from the Clives of Huxley (ancestors of the earls of Powis), as that family were often described as Cliff or Clyffe, and were intimately connected with ecclesiastics. Richard Cliff, Esq., of Huxley, in the diocese of Chester, was a friend of John (Bird) Bishop of Chester, and on the 26 March, 1547, recommended to him as a sub-deacon Richard Clyve of the same diocese. (*Book of Orders at Chester.*) Dr. William Clyffe, who had been connected with the Abbey of St. Werbergh, was presented by the abbot and convent to the rectory of Waverton, in which parish was Huxley Hall, the seat of the Clives (Ormerod's *Cheshire*, vol. ii. p. 801), and probably was the William Cliff, LL.D., who died in 1558, Rector of Standish, having been Arch-deacon of London (1529), Treasurer of York (1538), and afterwards Dean of Chester, of which last dignity he was deprived in 1558, and died in the same year. (Newcourt, vol. i. p. 62.)

Robert Cliff was educated at Oxford and Cambridge; at the latter place he was a member of Clement Hospital, and graduated Bc.L. 1496, and afterwards commenced LL.D. He was admitted "to the Guardianship of the Collegiate Church of Manchester, by the removal of the last Guardian, on the presentation of our most illustrious Lord, the King, for special reason, 29 Oct.,

1506." (*Lichf. Reg.*) He occurs, 19 July, 22 Henry VII. (1507), as "Master Robert Cliff, Warden of the College of B. Marie of Manchester," being at that time one of the four Awarders "towching the disposal of the trust estate of John Huntingdon," the Warden, the Bishop of Ely watching the proceedings and being instrumental in bringing the litigation to a favourable issue. (*Gastrell*, vol. ii. p. 62.) The date of Warden Cliff's appointment as given by all the local historians, and by the *Athen. Cantabr.*, vol. i. p. 66, is erroneous, as it is clear that Stanley vacated his dignity in Manchester immediately upon his consecration as Bishop of Ely, and that Cliff was his successor, although altogether omitted by Dugdale and Assheton.

May 26, 1502, Robert Cliff, Bachelor in both laws, was official of John Vesey, LL.D., Archdeacon of Chester (*Lichf. Reg.*), and Feb. 15, 1504. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxii., *Rysley Evid.*) On the 23 Sept., 1511, in the Parish Church of Blackburn, before the Dean of the Deanery of Blackburn, as official of the Archdeacon of Chester, he investigated the legality of the contract of espousals of Thomas Chadwick of Healey Hall, in Rochdale, and Grace Radcliffe, being minors: and annulled the same before consummation on the joint petition of the parties, on the 11 March, 1511-12, being styled "Robertus Clyff in utroque jure baccal., officialis domini Archdi Cestriæ." The King, by his sign manual and letters patent dated at Lancaster on the 26 July, 15 Henry VII. (1500), granted the guardianship of the person and lands of the said Chadwick, and also his marriage, to James Stanley, Clerk (the Warden and Archdeacon). (*Hist. of Fam. of Chadwick*, in Corry's *Lanc.*, pp. 563, 647, 648.)

In the Whalley Compotus of 1478, a pension of  $\text{iii}^s \text{iv}^d$  was paid by the Abbey to "Magister Clyff," who was a dependent, probably in holy orders, of that house (Whitaker's *Whalley*, p. 94), although not admitted as a student at Cambridge until 1488 (*Athen. Cantabr.*), and in the Compotus of 1521, the gift of  $\text{iii}^s \text{iv}^d$  again occurs to "Mag. Clyff," who had, however, at that time ceased to be Warden. That the payment had been due to him

appears from the fact that a Dean of Chester did not at that time exist, and the House of Whalley was regarded with great affection by the Collegiate Church, having large possessions in Manchester, Eccles and Dean. At this time, a gift was paid by the Abbey to the "Official of Chester," so that this payment to Clyff was independent of the Wardenship, although he had held both offices. (*Ibid.*, vol. i. p. 122.) In the 11 Henry VIII. (1519), a debt upon bond given by Warden Cliff to the Abbot of Whalley "for the use of a Priest and the support of the College of Manchester," was claimed by Warden West, and resisted by Abbot Paslew (*Duch. Lanc.*, quoted in Hibbert-Ware I., vol. i. p. 382), so that it is more than probable that the Warden had been, in early life, an official of this religious house.

In 1509, Bishop Oldham nominated him the first Visitor of the Grammar School of Manchester, but survived his Visitor three years, so that the Warden did not discharge the duty entrusted to him. He does not appear to have been subject to Bernard Gilpin's reproof of "growing wanton with stall feeding," like so many of his contemporaries, nor yet to have been "picking what he could get off a common," as he was not unmindful of his College, but bequeathed a pension for the support of a Priest, and for other purposes connected with the Church. (Hibbert-Ware's *Hist.*, vol. i. p. 182.)

The Rectories of Northwold in Norfolk, and of Outwell St. Clement, near Wisbeach, were both given to him by the Bishop of Ely, who had appreciated his merits and probably secured him the Wardenship. (*Ib.*, p. 56.) He was also Rector of Cottenham, in Cambridgeshire. Dr. Hibbert-Ware supposed that he vacated the office of Warden in 1513 or 1514, but what led to the vacating of it was unknown.

He held the dignity to the time of his death, which occurred before the 29 July, 1516 (*Lichf. Reg.*), as the vacancy is referred to his *death* in the presentation of Warden West. This may be an error, and the Wardenship was probably *resigned*, as it appears from the *Athen. Cantabr.* (vol. i. p. 66), that on 25 June, 1525, he

became Vicar of Wisbech, in Cambridgeshire [a living which he resigned before the 3rd July, 1533], and was constituted Chancellor Official Principal and Commissary of the Diocese of Ely. "On the 29 October, 1529, he was excommunicated by Dr. Edmunds, Vice-Chancellor of the University, for infringing the privileges of that body. The matter being referred to Cardinal Wolsey, he confirmed what the Vice-Chancellor had done, and ordered Dr. Clyffe to submit, which he accordingly did, and obtained absolution. He was one of the learned Canonists summoned to the Convocation on the business of the King's divorce. In 1531, he was convicted in the King's Bench of having infringed the statutes prohibiting intercourse with the Court of Rome, but obtained the King's special letters of protection. He died before 2 June, 1538." (Cooper's *Athen. Cantabr.*, p. 67; Hibbert-Ware, vol. iii. p. 75.) [The year of excommunication should be 1528.]

The following Letters are endorsed, "Mr Warden's lres about y<sup>e</sup> Tythe of y<sup>e</sup> More 11<sup>th</sup> h. viii", and are copies in the handwriting of that reign. It does not appear to whom they were addressed, but it is not improbable, as they refer to lands in Crumpsall, Chetham and Chaderton, that they were addressed to Bishop Oldham, Mr. Chaderton, or to some of their kinsfolk, as they were found amongst the Beswicke Evidences at Pike House, May 3, 1842. The style, "Right Worshipful Sir," implies ecclesiastical as well as civil rank. From the passage in the third letter, "my brother-in-law, and his neibor," it appears that Robert Clyff was connected with a family in Manchester, and as Edmund Chaderton of Nuthurst married Margery, daughter of . . . Cliffe and *niece* (sister?) of Warden Cliffe, and was father of Bishop Chaderton (*Notitia Cestr.*, vol. i. p. 8), he is probably the person here indicated. As the three letters appear to be dated on the same day, they may have been addressed to various individuals.

I. H. S.

"Right Wrshipfull Sr my full duetie Rembit to yo<sup>r</sup> w<sup>r</sup>ship w<sup>t</sup> humble comendaço<sup>ns</sup> I thank you for yo<sup>r</sup> moche kyndenes aswell



at london as where ells for whiche ye haue bounden me to the  
 utt'most of my smale power duryng my lyffe And where I was  
 p<sup>r</sup>posed to haue waited apon you at y<sup>s</sup> tyme / verely it is so y<sup>t</sup>  
 I receyued as yestday a lre from the quenes grace w<sup>r</sup>by I hade  
 soche knolwige y<sup>t</sup> I colde not in any wise kepe my suche promes  
 insomyche as she willed me to deffer my suche p<sup>r</sup>pes for certen  
 dayes / wherupon I beseche yo<sup>r</sup> w<sup>r</sup>ship so tendr<sup>r</sup>lie [as I] can and  
 as eu<sup>n</sup> I may do you 3ves to be gud m<sup>r</sup> in the mat<sup>r</sup> y<sup>t</sup> hangs in yo<sup>r</sup>  
 hands / wherin verely I dowt not / ye may do what shalbe yo<sup>r</sup>  
 owne pleasur cunveniently / and in yo<sup>r</sup> w<sup>r</sup>ship ha<sup>r</sup>th yai trusted a  
 long tyme, and now it lathe in you to do so for yem as yai shalbe  
 your beademen and s<sup>r</sup>vantts so long as yai lyve / wherof I beseche  
 you w<sup>t</sup> all my hert and as my trust is / Certyfying y<sup>r</sup> w<sup>r</sup>ship sū-  
 dele further in this mat<sup>r</sup> so it is my brother and o<sup>y</sup> be in condi-  
 tion for sellyng of the same lande / yt is now in variance to  
 take money for y<sup>e</sup> same / ellis to chaunge it for o<sup>y</sup> land where  
 ellis / and yet w<sup>t</sup> suche as shalbe bothe of substance & power by  
 himselfe / and also befor frynds to record yat y<sup>t</sup> is y<sup>e</sup> right / whiche  
 thing I wolde be lothe shulde ensue / bicause it lith so comodi-  
 ously for my frynds / and also I wolde not gladly thother ptie  
 shuldbe trowblet / but surely rather yen thay shulde entreat y<sup>e</sup>  
 pore men on this ma<sup>r</sup> surely I think such pvision or exchews-  
 aunce wold be made / wherepon it may please yo<sup>r</sup> maist<sup>r</sup>ship  
 eftsones ones to halfe in y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>r</sup>miss' / and wher I vnderstand y<sup>e</sup>  
 oth<sup>r</sup> ptie doth onlie clayme int<sup>r</sup>comyn w<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> pore men as I  
 haue lerned of tempall lawiers / in this thay graunte the p<sup>r</sup>ptie  
 and verey right title of the sole and grounde to be in  
 Cheth<sup>m</sup> & Chad<sup>'ton</sup> / whiche beyng of trowth thay are not Jus-  
 tifie to dryve any catell on the said Cheth<sup>m</sup> & Chad<sup>'ton</sup> a  
 syde / and onles thay can pve suche title of entrecomyn to haue  
 bene vsed w<sup>t</sup>out int<sup>r</sup>uppcō / thay said lawiers say it wolde be  
 saide for yem to Justifie y<sup>r</sup> suche clayme / wolde god I might  
 haue waited apon you at y<sup>s</sup> tyme Albeit yf yo<sup>r</sup> m<sup>r</sup>ship thinck I  
 culd do any good for to wait apon you in this behalf please it  
 you / yf ye can not o<sup>y</sup>wise order y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>r</sup>miss to rememb<sup>r</sup> this

greate matt<sup>r</sup> / and the plament yt is so moche spoken of / and  
apointe a tyme conuenient when ye thinke I shalbe at lais<sup>9</sup> / and  
I wulnot faaiele by godds grace to wait apon you / nottw<sup>t</sup>standyng  
I beseche you to take some paynes and by yo<sup>r</sup> wisdom to order  
ye p<sup>r</sup>mis as right wele / thus the Haly goeste ps<sup>r</sup>ve you in helth  
and when ye be mery sūtymes wisshe me y<sup>i</sup> / from Cambrigge  
vltiō August y<sup>r</sup> moste assu'd. Rob<sup>t</sup> Clyff p<sup>r</sup>st."

"Right w<sup>h</sup>shypfull Sr in all my full hertie man<sup>r</sup> I comend  
me to you / w<sup>t</sup> like thanks for yo<sup>r</sup> manyfolde kyndnes & grace  
there as well at London as where elles besechyng you to do som-  
what in the mat<sup>r</sup> I spake to you of and my broth<sup>r</sup> lykewise /  
reserve (onles yo<sup>r</sup> gudenēs) I know well my frynds shalbe putte  
myche wrong w<sup>r</sup>appen / as eu<sup>i</sup> I may do you s<sup>r</sup>vice helpe yem /  
according to conscience & justice / In whiche mat<sup>r</sup> please it you  
to understand ; sub modo forti / yf thother ptie be not content to  
suffer them to vse y<sup>e</sup> lande afr y<sup>e</sup> notis / forsothe meanes is halfe  
redy made & mediation had apon w<sup>th</sup> soche frends as wole not  
faiele to receve y<sup>e</sup> very ryght / and gefe my said frends large  
money or 'oy<sup>i</sup> lande for y<sup>e</sup> same w<sup>r</sup>bic v<sup>r</sup>lie thother shall have no  
greate vauntage bi y<sup>r</sup> suche doying and besides yat suche ground  
as is inclosed / to be ordert according to y<sup>e</sup> Statute notw<sup>t</sup>standyng  
I hade moche rather my said poure frynds might enioye y<sup>e</sup> rights  
yem selfe w<sup>t</sup> fauo<sup>r</sup> of thees ptie wherapon eftsones beseche yo<sup>r</sup>  
godenes as aboue w<sup>r</sup>bic ye shall bynd me body and guds / thus  
the Holgoste pserve you / from Cambrigie vltiō Augusti yo<sup>r</sup>  
owne ass<sup>r</sup>red Rob<sup>t</sup> Cliff p<sup>r</sup>st."

"Sr suche newes are comyn (and y<sup>t</sup> gud) y<sup>t</sup> I can not wait  
appon you myselfe as I was ppsed."

"Right Whorshipfull I comend me to you in my most hertie  
man<sup>r</sup> whith lyke thanks for yo<sup>r</sup> moche gudenēs aswell to myselfe  
as to my poure frynds in those pties / for y<sup>e</sup> wich y<sup>o</sup> be ass<sup>r</sup>ed of me  
to y<sup>e</sup> utt<sup>o</sup>most of my smale power / p<sup>r</sup>ying you for continuance of  
the same / specially at this tyme of yo<sup>r</sup> gudenēs to helpe my

b'other in lawe & his neibur to y<sup>e</sup> right where a c<sup>ten</sup> mater of theires is putte y<sup>u</sup> and c<sup>ten</sup> oy<sup>l</sup> wheare I know well ye may do moche / wherfore I beseche you as eu<sup>l</sup> I can or may do you s<sup>vice</sup> to helpe in the p<sup>miss</sup> / for whene I was fully p<sup>psed</sup> to have be w<sup>t</sup> you this tyme it is so I can not althoe the land where myn awne / and y<sup>'fore</sup> my speciall trust is in you so knoweth ou<sup>r</sup> lord who p<sup>serve</sup> you to his p<sup>lea</sup> / from Cambrig ul<sup>t</sup> August, by your awne as<sup>sured</sup> Robt. Clyffe."

[A graphic picture of Dr. Cliff's carriage in the case of his quarrel with the University of Cambridge, is quoted from Dr. Lamb's Cambridge Documents, in Cooper's *History of Cambridge*, vol. i. p. 327-9; see also the *Henry VIII. State Papers*, Brewer, vol. iv. p. 2114. Cliff defended Nicholas West, the Bishop of Ely, his master, "in a great stomach" and in "a stoute glory." The phrase "your mastership," and other touches in the speech, confirm the authenticity of the Pike House letters. Cliff's troubles in this business lasted more than a year, and the excommunication weighed upon him. One of his letters is extant in the Record Office, addressed to Wolsey, in which he writes as one who has been long unused to converse with men, though living among them, and as one who has not for many days performed the office of priest; and he besought Wolsey in the name of Christ, whose Nativity was at hand [*i.e.*, the 1529 anniversary], to hear and make an end of his cause. If he could not grant a perpetual absolution, he begged that he might at least have one *for the holidays*. The reference in the first Pike House letter to the Parliament about to meet, seems to be that opened by Sir Thomas More, 3 Nov., 1529, in which an act was passed against pluralities, and non-residence of the clergy.

Dr. Cliff personally attended the Convocation of 8 Nov., 1529, being one of the Proctors of the diocese of Ely. Amongst those summoned were Will. Knyght, Archdeacon of Chester; John, Abbot of Whalley; Will, Abbot of Vale Royal; Chr., Abbot of Combarnere; John, Abbot of St. Werburgh; the Abbot of Norton; Rob., Prior of Burscough; John, Prior of Birkynhead; and the Prior of Holland. (Brewer's *State Papers*, pp. 2699-2700.)

The Queen referred to in the first Pike House letter, is Queen Catherine, whose divorce was then pending. It does not appear that Cliff was one of her counsel ; but the Bishop of Ely was her intimate friend (*State Papers*, vol. iv. p. 2579), and one of her advocates (*Ath. Ox.*, vol. ii. p. 706). In February, 1530, Cliff attended a meeting of the heads of the University of Cambridge, summoned at the King's instance, to ascertain the opinion of that body on the proposed divorce, and Gardner wrote an account of the meeting to the King, which is printed amongst the Records in Burnet's *Reformation*. From this report, we gather that Cliff expressed himself against the King's wishes, and was to speak somewhat concerning the Canon law in the matter, but the speech is not given. (*Cf. State Papers*, vol. iv. p. 2808.)—ED.]

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. . . . . ALDAY. — This Warden is omitted in all the lists of these dignitaries, and Mr. Whatton was the first to enumerate him amongst the Wardens. (Hibbert-Ware's *Hist. Coll. Ch.*, p. 56.) He was one of the Domestic Chaplains and probably Confessor of Dr. Stanley, the Bishop of Ely, and appears to have lived on the most friendly terms with his patron, being associated with him in the labours of his Diocese. The Bishop, in his last Will, dated 20 March, 1514-15 (*Test. Vetusta*, vol. ii. p. 535, 8vo), desired that 40 marks might be bestowed on his tomb to be erected in a new chapel at the east end of Ely Cathedral, by the advice of Master Alday, Sir Ranulph Pole, and Sir John Clayden, his receiver. The Bishop also provided that a tomb should be raised "in his new Chapel now in building at Manchester," "by advice of Master Alday, Master Warden of Manchester," and yet there is no evidence that Alday was ever appointed or installed as Warden. This reference to his office is so distinct that it is not easy to account for the omission of his name in the Registry of the Diocese. West is stated to be the next successor of Dr. Cliff, but as the exact date of Cliff's death is unknown, it may be assumed that Alday had been nominated his successor, but not legally instituted. As Bishop Stanley died on the 31 March,

eleven days after the date of his Will, and the admission of West as Warden took place in July of the following year, Alday's term of office was very brief. When it ceased is unknown.

On the 20 August, 1515, 7 Henry VIII., Alday and the Fellows were united with Bishop Oldham, Thomas Langley, Rector of Prestwich, Hugh Bexwicke, and Ralph Hulme, to nominate and appoint a Master of the Grammar School of Manchester, and after their death the appointment was intended by the Bishop to be vested in the Warden and Fellows for the time being (Whetton's *Hist. Gram. Sch. of Manch.*, p. 10), but the Beswickes afterwards transferred the patronage to Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

The name might be originally Aldoun. Sir Thomas de Aldoun, a Kentish knight, vix. anno 1381. (Wordsworth's *Eccl. Biogr.*, vol. i. p. 234.)

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SIR GEORGE WEST was the third son of Sir Thomas West, Lord de la Warr, K.G., by his second wife, Eleanor, daughter of Sir Roger Copley of Gatton, in the county of Surrey, knt. (Collins, *Brydges*, vol. v. p. 16.) His father, in the 22 Henry VIII., subscribed the declaration to Pope Clement VII., intimating that his supremacy would not be regarded in England unless he complied with Queen Catherine's divorce; and on the dissolution of the great Monasteries he exchanged several manors at the instigation of the King, for those which had belonged to the religious houses. (*Ib.*, p. 13.) His father, by will dated October 8, 1524, settled his large estates, in failure of issue of his son and heir apparent and his heirs male, on his second son Owen West and his heirs male, with remainder to George the *third* son and his heirs male; but the tocsin of the Court having at this early period sounded the hard fate impending the Church, his father bequeathed his third son, being an ecclesiastic, neither lands nor legacy specifically (*Testam. Vetusta*, vol. ii. p. 605), and he seems to have met with no better treatment from his mother in 1536. (*Ib.*, p. 672.) Some provision had, however, been made for him, as on the 29

July, 1516, he was admitted "to the dignity or office of Guardian or Keeper of the Collegiate Church of the B. Mary of Manchester, vacant by the death of Robert Clyff, the last Guardian or Keeper, on the presentation of his father, Sir Thomas West, Knight, the true Patron." (*Lichf. Reg.*) This Warden was the fourth in descent from Joan, sister and heiress of Thomas, Baron de la Warr, the last Rector of Manchester and Founder of the College, she having married his ancestor, Sir Thomas West (Nicolas' *Synops.*), and through Eleanor, daughter of John, Lord Mowbray, he was descended from Henry, Duke of Lancaster, grandson of Henry III. (Collins, *Brydges*, vol. v. p. 6.)

In the 11 Henry VIII. (1519), Warden West claimed a debt upon bond given by the late Warden Cliff to the Abbot of Whalley for the use of a Priest and for the support of the College of Manchester, the Abbot having refused to dispose of the benefaction according to the supposed intention of the donor. (*Antea*, p. 46).

Sir George West, the Warden, built the Chapel at the east end of the Choir first dedicated to the B. V. Mary, but commonly known as Sir John Byron's Chapel, and since it was purchased by Mr. Humphrey Chetham of Clayton, called Chetham's Chapel. (Assheton's *MS. Hist.*) Dr. Hibbert-Ware considers that this Chapel is "doubtfully" ascribed to the Warden, and on the authority of an ancient *MS.*, formerly in the possession of the Rev. Joshua Brookes, but by an anonymous writer, it is attributed to the Lord de la Warr, brother of the Warden, chiefly on the ground of his family Arms being found there, without the distinction of a younger brother. (*Hist.*, p. 53.) It ought to be remembered that ecclesiastics did not bear arms, and the family coat being placed in the Chapel is not a clear proof that the foundation was the work of a pious layman. The Warden, as brother of the patron of the Church, would naturally place the arms of his house in his own Chapel. It was once called "the Warden's Chapel." (*Coll. Arms MS.*, c. 37.)

Sir George West resigned the Wardenship before the 2 Oct.,

1528, when his successor was appointed (*Lichf. Reg.*), and not in 1535, according to the statement of Dr. Hibbert-Ware. (*Hist. Coll. Ch.*, p. 60.) It appears that on West's resignation of the dignity, he stipulated with his successor for the annual payment of "a certain pension of 18*l.* during the natural life of the said George West" (*Lichf. Reg.*), a sort of simoniacal transaction not uncommon at that period, but strongly condemned by the canons of the Church.

It has been conjectured that he renounced his wardenship and a priestly life at the same time, in anticipation of the downfall of the Church (Hibbert-Ware, p. 60); but it is more probable that he obtained a dispensation to contract marriage to preserve and continue his ancient lineage and titles, and therefore relinquished his office and celibacy. He married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Sir Thomas Moreton of Lechlade, in the county of Gloucester, Knt., son of Thomas Moreton of the same place, who was the nephew of Archbishop Moreton, the Lord Chancellor. There was issue of this marriage, Margaret, wife of Thomas Arundel, Esq.; a second son, Sir Thomas West, Knt.; and a son and heir, who on the death of his uncle, in half blood, Thomas, Lord de la Warr, and of his uncle Sir Owen West, without issue, would have succeeded to the family honours, but being impatient for his uncle's natural death, he prepared poison to dispatch him, which atrocity being discovered, so highly incensed him that in the 2 Edward VI., on complaint being made to Parliament, the nephew was disabled to succeed his said uncle Thomas, either in honours or estate, but had an allowance of 350*l.* per annum. In 1568 the Queen, however, granted him a new creation to the title of Lord de la Warr, and he was restored in blood by the Parliament. (Collins, p. 17.) This son of the ex-Warden sold the manor of Manchester and his rights and privileges therein, and died in 1595.

Sir George West, during the twelve years he was Warden, seems to have seldom resided in the College of Manchester. He was buried in the Church of Warbleton, in Sussex, according to

his testamentary bequest, dated 7 September, 1538; the probate being dated on the 27th of the same month, shows that he died in that month and year. (Collins, Brydges, p. 17.)

Nothing more is known of his personal character or merits, and his public works were neither numerous nor munificent. He founded no charities, built no school, and all the events of his Wardenship were unimportant. He was probably a man of peace, as he does not occur in any suits at law, so common in his time. How he regarded the rising of the storm, on the remarkable men who affected the destinies of his College, is unknown; but his absence from it in the hour of peril would be regarded with no favourable eye by sincere men, and it is not unlikely that if piety or desert had always decided relative positions, others ought to have been what he was. He probably abandoned his religious office with perfect resignation, and might feel that the Church had "many a worthier son than he," having little sympathy with public feeling, and disregarding the silent and gradual advances of the Reformed Faith.

The Arms attributed to him by the writer of the *MS.*, c. 37, 168, in the College of Arms, are erroneous. The Arms of West are *Argent a fess dancetté sable*, and Sir George West being descended in the female line only from the ancient La Warrs, Lords La Warr, had a right only to quarter the Arms of La Warr and Cantelupe. The Arms given here are a combination of La Warr and Cantelupe. (Tho. W. King, Esq., *York Herald*.)

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GEORGE COLLIER or COLEIRE,<sup>1</sup> was son of Robert Coleire, a Frenchman, who came into England in the time of Henry VI., and settled at Darlaston, in the county of Stafford, by Isabel his wife, daughter and heir of Sir John Dodington of Dodington,

<sup>1</sup> Collier was a near relative of Cardinal Allen. William, son of Ralph Allan of Brockhouse, in the county of Stafford (tpe. Henry VII.), by his wife Elizabeth, dau. of John Allen of Rossall, in the county of Lancaster, married Margaret, dau. of John Collier of Darlaston, in the county of Stafford. (*Ped. of Allan of Blackwell Grange, co. Durham*; Longstaffe's *Hist. Darlington*.)



Knt., who was the son of John Dodington by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Oliver Hussey. His brothers were, Thurstan Coliere, who died without issue; James Coliere of Darlaston, who married a daughter of . . . Leveson of Wolverhampton, and who was ancestor of a family of Coliere whose pedigree was entered at the visitation of Lancaster anno 1663; and Robert Coliere, of whom there appears no issue. (Inf. Tho. W. King, Esq., *York Herald*.)

He was born about the year 1488, 4 Henry VII. In 1507, Dom. Rob. Colyer was a member of the Corpus Christi Guild at York-Register (p. 166, Surtees Soc., 1872). At the age of 40 he was admitted and instituted, 2 October, 1528, as "George Collier, A.M.," to the office of Guardian of the Collegiate Church of the B. V. Mary of Manchester, vacant by the free resignation of George West, the last Master or Keeper, on the presentation of Sir Thomas West, Knt., the patron. (Blythe's *Reg. Lichf*.) It is also recorded that Collier covenanted to pay an annual pension of 18*l*. to his predecessor during his natural life, apparently out of the revenues of the College. (*Ib.*)

On the 6 June, 24 Henry VIII., Magist. George Colyer Clerk Master or Guardian of B. M. of Manchester and his Fellows Chaplains of the said College unanimously consented to grant to Elena Keneon widow late wife of Adam Keneon that tenement and all the land lying in the hamlet of Newton within the Par. of Manchester now in her own occupation for her life and the life of one of her children paying yearly to the said Master and Fellows xxviii*s* annually at the Feast of the Nativ. and St. John the Bapt. by equal portions and rendering all services due and accust<sup>d</sup> with power of re-entry distraint &c. and the custos and his fellows shall have power to enter the s<sup>d</sup> pre<sup>m</sup>es and to see that they are kept in good condition and if not they shall remove expel &c. The common seal of the College is affixed.

On 20 June, 32 Henry VIII., George Colyer, Clerk, Master or Custos of the Collegiate Church of B. M. of Manchester and his Fellows Chaplains of the said College with their unanimous con-

sent and assent appoint their well beloved in Christ William Browne and Raphe Byrch their true and lawful Attorneys to enter into a certain tenement in Newton, called Pedley Place, late in the occupation of Robert Laborey deceased, and to give peaceable possession of the same in the name of the said Custos and his Fellows Chaplains to Stephen Hulme and Alice his wife, according to a certain Indenture to them made, dated 20 June, 32 Henry VIII., by the said College. Seal remains, but broken.

Sir Henry Turton, a learned and liberal Fellow of the College, by Will dated May 2, 1533, bequeathed to the Warden, whom he styles his "Master," two volumes of Origen's Works and Homilies, for his life, and then to revert and remain in the College Library, to be distributed to the Fellows of the said College by the hands of the Master, from time to time, "for to edify themselves in virtue." (*MS. Will*, Chester; also *Lanc. and Chesh. Wills*, vol. ii. p. 12, Chet. Soc.)

In 1535—the year in which Dr. H.-Ware erroneously states that Collier became Warden (*Hist. Coll. Ch.*, p. 61)—the King renounced the supremacy of the Pope and declared himself the temporal head of the English Church. Collier was staunch in his fidelity to the Sovereign Pontiff, and signalized himself by his zeal for the rights of the Romish see. He brought upon himself the jealous eye of the ruling powers, but waxing strong as a soldier of the cross, he did not quail before his mighty opponents. His refusal to acknowledge the King's supremacy (*Ib.*, p. 61), did not, however, lead to his deprivation, as he held his preferment during this reign.

In the Subsidy Roll of 1535–6, his income, as Warden, was assessed at x<sup>li</sup>. On the 22 October, 24 Henry VIII., he was chosen an Awarder in a dispute between Ralph Standish of Standish, Esq., Edmund Assheton of Chaderton, Esq., and Thomas Radclyffe of Denton, gent., on the one part, and Thomas Chetham (of Nuthurst) and Edmund Chaderton, gent., on the other part, respecting their title to certain lands. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxiv. p. 328.) In the 37 Henry VIII., Thomas Trafford and

Elizabeth his wife, late wife of George Leigh deceased, late farmer of the tithe corn of Heaton, Ralph Trafford and others, prosecuted George Collyer, Warden of Manchester College, in a disputed title to tithe corn at Trafford and Heaton, in Manchester parish. (*Cal. Plead., Duchy Court.*) In 1545, Bartholomew Colyere held the tithe corn of Burnage belonging to the College, paying yearly to the Chapter xxvi<sup>s</sup>. (*Royal Inq.*)

In 1540, Henry VIII. founded the See of Chester, and much of the power and authority of the Warden of Manchester was absorbed in the new foundation, and his commissions from the Diocesan ceased (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xvi. p. 341), whilst the mortuaries rendered payable to the Bishops of the Diocese on the death of Incumbents, however mean their endowments, were long felt to be oppressive exactions by their families. But Cromwell, first of the name notorious, was at hand with *his* exactions, and in the great Commission of Enquiry addressed by the King, 13 February, 1545 (37 Henry VIII.), to Sir Thomas Holcroft, Knt., and three others, preparatory to the dissolution of Collegiate and other ecclesiastical establishments, it was found that George Colyer, Clerk, was Warden of the College, and that there were only, at the time of the Inquisition, five instead of eight "Priests Incumbents being Fellows," four Deacons and six Choristers, "all bounden by the Founder to be resident and kepe hospitalitie together." Out of the annual income of ccxxxii<sup>li</sup>, the Warden received yearly in money xx<sup>li</sup>, his living l<sup>s</sup>, and two servants and three horses found of the common (fund) of the said College — in all, xxii<sup>li</sup> x<sup>s</sup>. The Warden's clerk and his horsekeeper had an allowance for his wages and livery, each of them xxxiii<sup>s</sup> iv<sup>d</sup>. Commons were allowed to the Warden and five Priests, "being Fellows now Incumbents" (resident) after xvi<sup>d</sup> a week. The surplus fund amounted annually to lvi<sup>li</sup> iii<sup>s</sup> iiiii<sup>d</sup> towards the payment of the King's Majesty yearly and the charge of one mease of meat daily allowed for strangers and all other charges of household, the maintenance and upholding of the mansions and other reparations, "with the relief of poor people which is ryght grete and

chargeable." Such was the statement of unfriendly inquisitors ; from which it appears that Mr. Collier managed the temporal affairs of his College with admirable economy and discretion. The corporation was not in debt, but on the contrary, the income exceeded the expenditure, and the amount bestowed in charity formed a not inconsiderable part of the annual receipts.

In another Royal Inquisition, taken 2 Edw. VI. (1548),<sup>1</sup> George Colyer was still styled the Warden, and said to be of the age of 60 years, having for his salary as Warden 68*l.* 10*s.*, besides 16*l.* a year "for his salary in other places." It appears impossible to account for this large increase of income, except by supposing that it includes not only the warden's share of the chapter fund, but all the stipends and charges incident to the office, whilst the payments referred to in 1545 are allotted to the various recipients.

He probably held other preferment, but it has not been discovered where. In 1547, the College was dissolved, although it is recorded that Collier was deprived for refusing the oath of supremacy to Edward VI., and to be conformable to the times (*Coll. Arm.*, c. 37), and yet he had a pension of 34*l.* 5*s.* settled on him by the King. (Hibbert-Ware's *Hist.*, append., p. 388.) Sir George Colyer retired from Manchester to the neighbourhood of Stone in Staffordshire, where his brother dwelt, and there lived privately (*Coll. Arm.*, c. 37), never bending, like the oaks by which he was surrounded, although he might be broken, and of a very different spirit to his contemporary Erasmus, who said he had no inclination to die for the sake of the truth.

On the accession of Queen Mary,<sup>2</sup> he was recalled to resume his wardenship. Opposed to the suppression of his College and the violation of the Monasteries, he looked upon the retainers of Church lands as involved in the crime of sacrilege, and regarded

<sup>1</sup> On the 15 March, 1548, the Privy Council required the Bishops to give directions to the whole Clergy to administer the Holy Sacrament to the laity in both kinds. (*Dom. State Pap.*, vol. iv. p. 7 ; *Cal.*, 1548-1580.)

<sup>2</sup> In July, 1557, the Queen wrote to the Earl of Derby, informing him that she had restored the Incorporation of the College of Manchester, and thanks him for the favour he had shown them. The charter is dated July 13. (*Dom. State Pap.*, vol. xi. p. 94.)

Queen Mary as a public benefactor, and as a blessed successor to the heritage of Church robbers. The Queen made what reparation she could for the evil which had been done. She refounded the College of Manchester, appointed a warden, eight fellows, chaplains, four clerks, and six choristers. (Hollinworth's *Mancuniensis*.) She also restored certain lands, and the tithes which the pious founder had given, and wished the rights and immunities of the College to be preserved. The chasuble and cope, the incense clouds and tapers, the long processions, the chantry priests and the gorgeous service were all again visible and in operation, to the great satisfaction of Warden Collier, who regarded them as ancient verities. This foundation had only a brief existence. The Warden had the gratification to see its origin, and the mortification to foresee its destruction and the actual dispersion of his fellows.

An old writer observed, "This Sir George Colyer was a resolved Papist, and could not be brought to comply with the present world, though he was held to be the most bountiful and generous Warden that had been in this Church." (*MS. penes* Rev. Joshua Brookes, quoted by H.-Ware, *Hist.*, p. 76.) The latter part of this eulogy is fairly open to investigation, and it is certain that Colier left behind him no works equal to those of Huntingdon or Stanley. A passage, misquoted in Mr. Brookes's *MS.*, and transferred to the more pretentious pages of Dr. H.-Ware, has perplexed all who have considered it, in reference to Collyer. "His bounty is yet fresh," said Mr. Brookes's authority, "by the *writing* of many that then knew him" (*Hist.*, p. 76), but the *MS. Lives of the Wardens*, in the College of Arms, gives us the correct version: "Of whose exceeding great bounty and hospitality, it is yet fresh in memory of many in that towne (Manchester) that knew him, both first when he was Warden, and in his absence, and after."

On the 21 March, 1555, Bradford, the martyr, writes: "By means of one of the Earl of Derby's men, left behind my lord his master for the soliciting of my cause, as he said to me, there

came to the Compter [the prison] to dinner, one Master Collier, once Warden of Manchester, and the said servant of the Earl of Derby; of whom I learned that Master Docter Weston, Dean of Westminster, would be with him in the afternoon, about two of the clock or before. At dinner therefore (when the said Warden did discommend King Edward, and went about to set forth the authority of the Pope, which I withstood, defending the King's faith, that it was Catholic, and that the authority of the Bishop of Rome his supremacy, was usurped, bringing forth the testimony of Gregory, which affirmeth the name of Supreme Head to be a title to the forerunner to Anti-christ), a woman prisoner was brought in. . . . At length all went out save Master Weston, Master Collier, the Earl of Derby his servant, the Subdean of Westminster, the Keeper, Master Clayden, and the parson of the Church where the Compter is." (Bradford's *Writings*, vol. i. p. 538, Parker Soc. ed.) "On the 28th of March there came to the Compter Dr. Pendleton and with him Master Collier, once Warden of Manchester, and Stephen Beiche," *i.e.*, Becke, probably a connection of the Martyr, through the Beswickes (*Ib.* p. 541); but none of them could refute his arguments or quench the spirit with which he spoke.

After these painful interviews with Bradford, Collier again became Warden of Manchester, where he was living 20 October, 1556 (*Lanc. and Chesh. Wills*, pt. ii. p. 149), and where he died, according to Dr. H.-Ware, about 1557 (p. 76). It is clear that on the 19 March, 1556-7, he was Warden, and Commissary of Cuthbert, Lord Bishop of Chester (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xvi. p. 341), and an Inventory of the Goods of George Collier, Clerk, late of Manchester, was exhibited in the Consistory Court of Chester, 12 July, 1558. (*Ib.*)<sup>1</sup> "He was buried in a little Chapel at the east end of the Collegiate Church, built by Sir George West, Warden, his predecessor, or the founder his brother, the Lord, without any monument." (*Coll. Arms*, c. 37.)

<sup>1</sup> [This Inventory, enumerating property valued at 69*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.*, will be found in vol. iii. of the Chetham (new) Series, pp. 18, *seq.*]

His high reputation for charity and hospitality had made him a valuable auxiliary of the adherents of the Romish faith, who felt the importance of maintaining him in a position which, if not the most lucrative, was assuredly one of the most important in that period of religious transition, when adhesiveness to fixed principles and the absence of tergiversation would not be without their influence. Dr. H.-Ware observes, that it is creditable to him that he does not appear to have aided persecution (p. 76), although it is unfortunate that he should have been found aiding persecution.

His Arms, which are not depicted in Dugdale's copy of the "List of Wardens of Manchester College," are Quarterly 1 and 4. *Sable a cross patée fitchée, or, COLIERE.* 2. *Sable, three bugle horns sable, stringed, gules, DODINGTON.* 3. *Barry of six, ermine and gules, HUSSEY.* (Inf. Mr. King, York Herald.)

LAURENCE VAUX, or VAUCE,<sup>1</sup> was born near Blackrod, in the parish of Bolton-le-Moors, in this county, according to computation, about the year 1519. He appears to have been descended from a family who had acquired some small property under the Tudors, but whose prosperity was of short duration. The surname Vose is not unknown at this day in the neighbourhood of Blackrod, and about St. Helens it is common. It appears that "Dñs Laurencius Vauce," of the Diocese of Chester, was ordained *Presbyter*, on the title of John Urmston of Leigh, Esq., by John Bird, Bishop of Chester, on Sunday next after the feast of St. Matthew the Apostle (September 21), 1542, in the Collegiate Church of B. Marie (of Manchester?), having been an Acolyte, Subdeacon, and Deacon in regular gradation. (Bp. Bird's *Ordin. Bk.*) Wood says he was made Priest about 1540,—which is an error. (*Athen.*, p. 130.)

Vaux was educated, probably, at Manchester Grammar School,

<sup>1</sup> [An ample and exact memoir of this Warden is prefixed to the reprint of his *Catechism*, in vol. iv. of this series, by Mr. T. G. Law, who has corrected some errors in Canon Raines's account, which is here printed as he left it.—ED.]

at that time in its infancy and enjoying a high reputation. He was entered of Queen's College, Oxford, but afterwards removed to Corpus Christi College, the noble foundation of Bishop Fox and his judicious friend Bishop Hugh Oldham. At the latter College, where he was either clerk or chorister, Vaux was much favoured by Dr. James Brookes, a Fellow of the College, afterwards Master of Balliol and Bishop of Gloucester (1554-58). (Wood's *Athen. Oxon.*, p. 130; Dodd's *Ch. Hist.*, vol. ii. p. 110, fol. 1739.) He became a Fellow of Manchester College. He had a high reputation for instructing youth in the peculiar tenets of the Romish Church, and was zealous against the Reformed faith. He probably witnessed the martyrdom of Bishop Hooper in 1554-5, as he was the Chaplain and friend of Brookes, who succeeded the martyr.

At the dissolution of the College of Manchester, 1 Edw. VI., "Laurence Vauss, Incumbent Fellow," had a pension assigned of 8*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* (Dr. H.-Ware, vol. i. p. 388, app.) He returned to his Fellowship on the new foundation of the College by Queen Mary, being named in the Charter. (*Ib.*, p. 76.)

On the 19 March, 1556, he was a Commissioner, along with Warden Collyer, of Cuthbert, Bishop of Chester, and is styled in the commission, "Laurence Vauce, Fellow of the said Church of Manchester." (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xvi. p. 341.) In this year, 1556, he was admitted to the reading of the Sentences at Oxford, and was B.D. (Wood's *Athen.*, p. 130.)

In the 2 Edward VI., he was described as "one of the Priests Curates of the Parish of Manchester," having from the College an income of 12*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.*, "and no other lyvynges," so that in an age of pluralities he was not a Pluralist.

He was appointed Warden of his College by Queen Mary on the death of Collier, in 1557 or 1558, being the first instance of a Fellow advanced to that dignity.

On the 12 August, 1558, Nicholas Baguley of Newton in Manchester, yeoman, a wealthy and liberal individual, provided by his Will that a "sepulture," or Easter monument, should be



erected by Sir Thomas Cunliffe, in the Church of Manchester, "by the High Aulter," at a cost of vi<sup>li</sup>, and he provided "that Sir Laurence Voce Warden of Manchester be overseer of this work and see it performed and done and if it be thought by Mr Warden and my Executors that vi<sup>li</sup> is not sufficient for the workmanship then I will that the said Thomas have more reasonable by Mr Warden and my Executors." (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xiii. p. 283.)

There is little doubt that the letter signed "L.V." in the State Paper Office, dated November 2, 1566, is written by him. It contains an explanation of Dr. Sanders's letter and gives authority to him and Dr. Harding from the Pope. There is an exposition of various points of doctrine as taught and enforced by the Roman Church. He urges the good example of his correspondent (not named) towards reviving the Catholic Religion in England, and wishes his letter to be communicated to Sir Rd. Mollineux and other his friends. (Vol. xli. No. 1, *Cal.*, p. 281.) Año Nov. 1, 1568, Edm. Holme writes to Mr. Glaseour and Mr. Hurleston at Chester, detailing the circumstances under which Sir Richard Mollineux, his son John Mollineux, and his daughters Jane, Alice and Ann Mollineux, and other persons, took an oath declaring the Pope to be the supreme head of the Church. (*Ib.*, vol. xlviii. No. 34, p. 321.)

February 21, 1568, the Queen wrote to Edw. Holland, Sheriff of Lancashire, to cause certain deprived ministers to be apprehended and committed. On the back the following names are endorsed: "Alen, who wrote the late Book of Purgatory; *Vause, ones Warden* of Winchester [Manchester]; Murrey [Murren], Chaplen to Boner, late Bushop of London; Marshal, ones Deane of Christchurch in Oxford; Hargrave, late Vicar of Blackbourne, and one Norreys, tearing himself a Physician." (*Dom. State Pap.*, vol. xlvi., No. 32, p. 307.) And the Queen, at the same time, wrote to Downham, Bishop of Chester, urging him to take especial care for maintaining uniformity of religious worship within his Diocese. (*Ibid.*)

He held his office for a short time only. On the accession of Queen Elizabeth he refused to take the oath of supremacy pursuant to the Act 1 Elizabeth, and was consequently deprived of his Wardenship. Keeping up the love of his own county, he retired to his native place and ancestral possessions, which had apparently never been large, and is supposed to have officiated in the family of Standish, who were zealous Romanists in that neighbourhood. To this family he bequeathed his Library and also the Communion Plate of the Collegiate Church, which Hollinworth says he had conveyed away with him, not from any mercenary motive, but doubtless in order to preserve it, as he thought, from the contamination of his heretical successors. He regarded, like many others, the spoliation of Church property with abhorrence, but seems to have forgotten that no good could arise from such an evil act as his own. The plate was probably in his possession when the College was plundered, and the religious mind of the day had its effect upon the Warden, and brought out the various shades of his character. Such appropriations at that time were not uncommon, and were even considered to be meritorious, although Bradford's supposed misappropriation of a small sum of money was an act never to be forgiven.

After his deprivation, Vaux emigrated to Ireland, a country at that time turbulent and disordered, where he had the misfortune to be robbed of all his substance, and narrowly escaped with life. Several of his companions were murdered (Dodd, *Ch. Hist.*, vol. ii. p. 3); but Wood intimates that the loss was occasioned by thieves, and that his religious creed had no concern in the casualty. (*Athen. Oxon.*, i. 384.)

On the last July, 10 Eliz. (1567), at the Manor of Lathom, "in alta camera ibi vulgato nuncupat the dyninge Chamber," before Edward Earl of Derby, William Bishop of Chester, Sir Edward Fitton, Sir Richard Sherburne, Edward Holland, Wm. Gerard, Richard Asheton, Esquires, and Robert Leche, LL.D., Commissioners of the Queen in causes ecclesiastical, appeared twenty

Lancashire recusants, who had been bound in their recognizances to answer the charges objected against them. Amongst the clerical recusants, twelve in number, were *Vaux* and *Allen*. The principal charges against them were, not repairing to their parish Church nor receiving the Holy Communion, harbouring certain objectionable persons and refusing to obey the Queen's proceedings "in order of the divine service set fourth and allowed." They appear to have confessed their fault "with greate humble-ness," and to have promised conformity, and the Queen desired that such should "with great lenitie be used." They were dismissed with an injunction to receive the Holy Communion at their own parish Church or Chapel, at or before the feast of All Saints next following, and yearly afterwards three times in the year, and to repair at all times, when and as often as any Sermon should be preached, within three miles of their dwelling houses, to the Church "where the Sermon should be made having therof knolledge." They were each of them required to enter into bond in the sum of 300 marks to the Queen, to appear at all times personally before the said Bishop and the other Commissioners, upon 20 days warning being given to them by precept, if they shall be within the county of Lancaster, or else within 40 days after the leaving of the said precept at his or their houses. (Picope's *MSS. from Chester Reg.*, p. 117, 4to.)

On the 6 April, 12 Eliz. (1569), Vaux appears to have been in Lancashire and to have "subscribed" certain articles before the Queen's Commissioners at Lathom. One of these was, that "he should not reason, dispute, or maintain any Controversie against the Religion nowe most godlie sett fourthe." And at the same time William Singleton of Bank Hall, in the county of Lancaster, Esq., who had been committed to prison in the North Gate, Chester, as a recusant, was brought before the Commissioners, and in consideration of his sickness, through imprisonment, as well as by the report of Richard Case, the chief keeper of the gaol, "and also by sight of the s<sup>d</sup> William Singleton his bodye and pson manifestlie appeareth to be true," and the said prison

"being pestered with so many prisoners," that there was no convenient chamber or lodging for a sick person, a license was granted to the said Singleton to retire to Bank Hall until the 27 June next, on condition that he did not hear Mass or relieve with meat, drink, clothes, or money, any of the Priests whose names are subscribed, amongst which occur those of *Vaux* and *Allen*. (*Ib.*, p. 123.)

He afterwards "fled beyond sea" (Assheton's *MS.*), seeking an asylum in Flanders, where he met with many individuals of unshaken constancy who had emigrated thither from Lancashire, so that he did not find himself altogether amongst strangers. He ultimately became an academical Professor in the University of Louvaine, then a celebrated educational establishment, and is said to have become a Monk, but more likely a Jesuit (Hollinworth's *Hist.*, p. 80); although Wood supposed that he was "of the Cenobie of St. Dionyse." (*Athen. Oxon.*, i. 386.)

Never quitting the anchor of hope, although unable to steer the vessel of St. Peter in Manchester, he returned to England as a seminary Priest, in defiance of the public prohibition, and bitterly hostile to the government of the Queen.

Paternal attachments, and old reminiscences and experiences, induced him to seek the neighbourhood of Blackrod, as well as his close association with the Jesuits, who had long shared his sympathies. In 1580, he entertained at his house in Lancashire his personal friends and colleagues, Campian and Persons, who had chosen the north of England as the scene of their labours against the stability of the government and Church. Having brought himself within the jurisdiction of the Lord President and Council of the North, and knowing the high estimation in which Vaux was held by the Roman Catholics, these high functionaries deemed it necessary to act with great stringency in enforcing the laws against him. And it seems probable that this was the first time that the Stat. 2 Eliz. was enforced against him as a seminary Priest, the penalty being for the first offence forfeiture of goods, *with one year's imprisonment*; for the second, the penalties of a



was laborious, learned, and in his way, devout and conscientious" (*Ib.*, p. 77), which is not moderate praise from a rigid Presbyterian, and his attainments rose even higher than these.

For the credit of our common Christianity, we may hope that his sufferings were, in a great measure, the result of his political views, and not because he sought to extend the power of Rome in England. Whatever his creed, he had ceased to be a patriotic Englishman, and was notoriously convicted of treasonable practices. The struggle he endured was a severe one, and, doubtless, shattered him greatly, as similar struggles had done greater and better Lancashire men in the preceding gloomy reign; but it is due to them all to say, whatever the measure of their sincerity or intolerance—"the glory dies not, and the grief is past." God grant that the latter may never be revived!

The Arms assigned to this Warden are nearly the same as those borne by the Lords Vaux of Harroden, but he does not occur in their pedigrees. (Inf. of Mr. King, York Herald.)

His published works are:

1. *A Catechisme or a Christian Doctrine necessary for Children and Ignorant People.* Lov. 1567, Antw. 1574, printed again 1583<sup>1</sup> and 1599, &c. 8vo and 12mo.
2. *An Instruction of the laudable Customs used in the Catholic Church.* This in some editions is entitled, *The Use and Meaning of Holy Ceremonies in God's Church.*
3. *Godly Contemplations for the Unlearned.* These two last are printed with one, two, or more of the editions of the *Catechisme.*
4. *Certain brief Notes of divers Godly Matters.* Printed with the *Catechisme* in 1583 and 1599. 8vo.

In 20 Eliz. (1578), lands in Manchester parish belonging to the Collegiate body were held by the wife of Richard Vaux and the

<sup>1</sup> The edition printed in 1583 is in 18mo. The full title is: *A Catechisme or Christian Doctrine necessarie for Children and ignorant People, by Laurence Vaux, B. of Divinitie; with an other later addition of instruction of the laudable Ceremonies used in the Catholicke Church, and a brief form of Confession.* It was printed abroad, no place, nor printer; in an old vellum wrapper.

wife of Thomas Vaux, probably connections of the deprived Warden, and are named in the Queen's Charter.

WILLIAM BIRCH, third son of George Birch of Birch Hall, in the parish of Manchester, gentleman, by his wife, Marion, daughter of Thomas Beck of Manchester, merchant. He was of good and ancient descent from both parents, his father being the 12th in lineal succession from Matthew de Birch, living in the time of King John (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xii. ; Booker's *Hist. of Birch*, 4to., p. 102), and his mother being of an opulent, religious and liberal family—the Becks—long settled in Manchester. (*Lanc. Visit.*, 1664, p. 33.) According to computation, William Birch was born about 1522, receiving his early education at Manchester Grammar School shortly after its foundation, and at the period when England was convulsed by the throes of the Reformation.

He was of St. John's College, Cambridge, B.A. 1547-8, M.A. 1551. The dates of the B.D. and D.D. degrees are not given. He was elected Fellow of Corpus Christi Coll. in 1548.

Hollinworth states that he was ordained by Bishop Ridley (after 1547), who had doubtless become acquainted with him at Cambridge. Birch's intimate knowledge of the doctrines of the Reformation, his talents and attainments, as well as his distinguished oratorical powers, were witnessed by large auditories throughout a far wider circle than the limits of his own parish or diocese. He was not one of the "Strawberry Preachers" described by Latimer in his sermon on the Plough, "which come once in the year and are soon gone;" he was a constant and, if we may judge from the effects in South Lancashire, a successful preacher. He was one of the four Royal Preachers (Bradford the Martyr being another) licensed by Edward VI. on account of their fervid oratorical powers to proclaim the Reformed doctrines from place to place. Birch's original Licence<sup>1</sup> still exists, with the sign

<sup>1</sup> This valuable parchment document was found amongst the Birch Evidences, and was presented in June, 1859, by Stephen Heelis, Esq., late Mayor of Salford, to the Peel Park Museum, Salford. The King appointed under the Ecclesiastical Seal other

manual of the young King, and a fragment of the red seal attached to the document. It sets forth that the people through the slackness of some negligent Pastors and Curates have been heretofore trained in ignorance and superstition, whereby they have neglected their bounden duty to God, their Prince, and others,—“We therefore of our godly zeal, and having knowledge both of the learning and godly conversation of William Byrche, M.A., and Student of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, have authorized the same to preach and deliver unto our loving subjects in all places of our dominions where he shall think good the true and holsome doctrine of the lyvely Word of God.” All Archbishops, Bishops, and all the King’s subjects and officers of every degree, both of the Clergy and Laity, are required not only to permit and suffer him to preach without interruption, but to hear him with all humility, and to follow his doctrine. Justices, Mayors, and others are empowered to punish all seditious and evil-disposed persons, who attempt to slander or defame any thing which shall be godly and justly taught and pronounced by the said William Birche. This Royal Licence was dated at the Manor of Guildford, the 21 July, 1552. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxii. p. 511.)

During the reign of Queen Mary, Birch’s history is unknown, but he was ejected from his Fellowship, and seems to have been an exile. On the accession of Queen Elizabeth he emerged from his retirement and was Rector of Gateshead, in the county of Durham, 1559. (*Surtecs*, vol. ii. p. 118). In 1560 (1559, 2nd Eliz., according to Hollinworth, p. 79), he was presented by the Crown to the Wardenship of Manchester. The Sees of York and Chester being at that time vacant, the deed of presentation was addressed “to the Dean and Chapter of York and the Keeper of the Spiritualities there,” but the same author was not informed whether Birch was admitted and installed. His nomination exists

famous preachers, and between July and December, 1547, nominated Hugh Latimer, Dr. Coxe, Robert Horne, Edwyn Sandys, James Pilkington, Matthew Parker, John Knox, Edmund Gryndall, and others. (*Dom. State Pap.*, vol. ii.; *Cal.* p. 5.)



amongst the Archiepiscopal records at York, and as Birch is afterwards styled and recognised as Warden, it seems probable that he had been admitted to the office. Hollinworth's date is erroneous.

Dr. Hibbert-Ware states that Birch's Wardenship extended over "many years, probably from ten to twelve" (*Hist. Coll. Ch.*, p. 79); whilst another local writer omits him altogether, and records that "Herle succeeded Vaux." (Edwards' *Manchester Worthies*, p. 11. 8vo. 1855.) Dr. H.-Ware's errors and mis-statements on this period of his history are singularly confusing, and the incidents which are attributed to the Wardenship of Birch belong to his successor. It had escaped the notice of Dr. H.-Ware that the earliest account of this Warden records that he held the office "for only one year," and the Dr. cancelled several leaves in order to perpetuate a groundless statement, viz., that Birch was Warden from 1558 to 1570 (p. 79, app. p. 390). "The Queen granted the Wardenship by her Letters Patent under the Great Seal, the 2nd year of her reign (1559), but she being desirous to place one Hearle here, sent him with a letter to Mr. Bearch, who resigned his place, and Hearle was installed Warden in his roome." (*MS. Hist. Wardens, Manch., in Coll. Arm.*)

Herle himself, writing to Burghley, names "the deprivation of his popish predecessor." (See Strype's *Life of Parker*, p. 107.)

In Assheton's *MS.* it is stated, "Birch held the place not long, wearied out by vain attempts to prevent sacrilege and spoliation."

Through the interest of Pilkington, his neighbour in Lancashire, and also Bishop of Durham, he was collated to the 7th stall in that Cathedral, 3 July, 1562, and was deprived of the same in 1567, being succeeded by Leonard Pilkington, the Bishop's brother. (Le Neve's *Fasti*, vol. iii. p. 315.) He was also Rector of Stanhope, to which he was collated 25 August, 1564, by the same Bishop, at which time he resigned Gateshead. (Surtees Soc., vol. ii. p. 118; Cooper's *Athen. Cantabr.*, vol. i. p. 562.) He was the friend of the Apostolic Bernard Gilpin, but leaning to the Puritanical opinions of Cartwright (a member of his own College

and his friend, through Pilkington), the feeble opponent of Hooker with more zeal than discretion sent Cartwright's first Reply to Whitgift on Church Discipline, about 1570, soon after its publication, to Gilpin, with a desire that he would read it carefully, and communicate to him his remarks upon it. His impatience to know Gilpin's opinions induced him to send a messenger before Mr. Gilpin had read the book half through. He returned it, however, with the following lines, which shewed Dr. Birch what his views were generally of Church government (*Life of Bern. Gilpin*, p. 156) :—

Multa quidem legi, sed plura legenda reliqui ;  
Posthac cum dabitur copia, cuncta legam ;  
Optant ut careat maculis ecclesia cunctis,  
Præsens vita regat ; vita futura dabit.

He was also the friend of the two Levers, who were natives of his own county, the Archdeacon succeeding him in the Rectory of Stanhope, and, like his brother, Thomas Lever, having "a rooted aversion to priestly habits." (Surtees, *Durh.*, vol. i., p. 141.) The intemperate proceedings and disordered zeal of the popular party, to which these men were allied, rendered them, with their exemplary piety and various learning, obnoxious to the Government. Like Parkhurst, they appear to have regarded the Church of Zurich as the perfect model of a Christian community, and, as a matter of course, cared little for tippet, cap, surplice, or wafer bread. Birch had imbibed Knox's view of female sovereignty, and the jealous Queen not unnaturally pressed uniformity, and thus punished her seditious clerical subjects by deprivation. Several of these Durham clergy were convened before the Archbishop of York, and, after unavailing reprimands and imprisonments, according to the evil fashion of the day, were suspended, and finally deprived. (*Life of Bernard Gilpin*, p. 157. *York MSS.*) We can scarcely wonder that such individuals should have maintained Cartwright's opinion that Bishops ought not to be created by civil authority, but ought to be fairly and openly chosen by the Church.

Dr. H.-Ware says that Warden Birch "is said to have died in the year 1572" (p. 82), but his Will is dated 29 May, 1575, and was proved on the 30th November in the same year. He styles himself "Pastor of Stanhope, Co. Durham," and "in a decayed body," although he was little more than fifty, but had lived in harassing times. He seems to have written his Will with his own hand, and observes, "According as in riches the Lord hath by His good blessing made me Steward, so now I bequeath them unto Him, as by His godly will He shall guide my heart to bestow them. Ipse animam et calamum dirigat!" He gives to the poor prisoners in Lancaster Castle 10<sup>s</sup>. To xx poor widows or decayed artificers in Manchester and Sawford xl<sup>s</sup>, to every one ij<sup>s</sup> not unthrift. To xx poor maidens in Manchester parish towards their marriage iii<sup>li</sup> iii<sup>s</sup> apiece. To needful Brigs or highways within three miles of Byrche, my brother's house iii<sup>li</sup>, to be bestowed out of his ground, as he or his son George Byrche supposeth likely. xl<sup>s</sup> to poor craftsmen, beginners, to set up their occupation in Manchester or Stopperde (Stockport). To xx poor scholars in Latin in Manchester School xl<sup>s</sup> apiece. To ten poor in Stopperd x<sup>s</sup>, or so much rather to v. To the poorest in Risshum, Withington, Didsbury, v<sup>s</sup> each place. To my brother Thomas' son, Ralph, James Pilkington's three Books all in one bounden book that now I have. To my brother Thomas, to be an heir-loom, my Geneva Bible there printed in English, and the Silver beare pot, parcel-gilt covered, that cost iii<sup>li</sup>. Also Munster's Cosmography in Latin for George his son. To George, my brother, Fabyan's Chronicles and six silver spoons of mine that he hath in keeping. My Books of the Laws of this Realm I leave to Thomas my brother, for his children, as he thinketh, or to George his Son for him and brethren. The 7 new volumes of Civil Law I give to Anthony Higgins, with the Annotations of Budæus upon the Pandects. The Canon Law books to G. Higgins. Cicero's Works to Edw. Higgins, Logic, Arithmetic, Cosmography, and Books of Astronomy in Latin, and the Poets. All my Greek and Hebrew books to William and

Thomas Birch. To William Browell (a nephew) my Books of Erasmus, Melancthon's Logic and Rhetoric. To Robert Birch all my Books of Profane and Ecclesiastical histories. All my Latin Divinity books to those of my nephews that first be teachers in the Ecclesiastical Ministry. For Executors he appointed "my brother Thomas or his son George if living; if not, my other brother George Birche, or if dead then Anthony Higgins." (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xiii. p. 276; Booker's *Birch*, p. 81; and *Durham Wills*, Surtees Soc.)

He remembered his family, friends, and the poor; but it is observable that his Patron and Diocesan had no bequest in his Will. Pilkington only survived him a few weeks, dying on the 23 January, 1575-6, and was only a few years his senior.

The arms borne by Warden Birch were 1st and 4th, *azure* 3 fleur de lis, *argent*; 2 and 3, 1st and 4th *or* a martlet *azure*, 2 and 3 paly of 6 *argent* and *gu.* (*MS. Coll. Arm.*) In Cooper's *Athen. Cantab.* the arms are said to be *argent* a chevron between 3 mullets *sable* (p. 563).

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THOMAS HERLE, son of John Herle of Prideaux Herle, co. Cornwall, Esq., originally of West Herle, county of Northumberland, descended, according to Carew, who was his contemporary, "from sundry knights." His mother was Margeret Fulkeram, or Fulkroy. He was probably brother of John Herle, Esq., M.P. for Preston, in Lancashire, 1555. (Baines, corrected, iv. p. 347.) Educated at one of the Colleges of Cambridge, he was M.A. 1558, B.D. 1561, but is styled M.A. only in a bond, 6 Oct., 17 Eliz. (1575). He was presented to the first prebendal stall at Worcester, probably by Queen Mary, 26 March, 1558, and, as his predecessor had been deprived, doubtless on account of holding the Reformed Faith, there can be little doubt that at this time Herle was a Roman Catholic, and Hollinworth uncharitably suspected that he continued one. "If he was a Protestant," says he, "he had always changed with the Princes in those changeable times." (Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 79; Hollinworth's *Mancun.*, p. 81.) Out-

ward conformity to the principles of the Reformation, not involving the practice of the popular persecution, seems to have been unsatisfactory to the old Chronicler of Manchester, who had, however, enjoyed opportunities of conversing with many who had personally known Herle, and been acquainted with his character and proceedings. He was "an excellent preacher," but is stigmatised as "a selfish man," and the proofs of his selfishness are unfortunately recorded.

On the 7 October, 1559, apparently the first year of his Wardenship, "Master Thomas Hearle and his fellows chaplens and bredern granted a lease of a messuage in Newton, in Manchester parish, for ten years, to Edmund Assheton of Chaderton, Esq.;" and on the 17th January, 6 Elizabeth (1563-4), "the Right Worshippful Thomas Herle, Clerk, and his Fellows Chaplens of the same College of Manchester, demised to Stephen Browne, of Manchester, yeoman, another tenement in Newton for a term of years, which the said Browne surrendered to Edwd. Siddall, who in his turn conveyed it to Stephen Becke, of Manchester, yeoman, who on the 18 November, 9 Elizabeth, for 33*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. alienated the same to Robert Hulme of Newton, gentleman, his heirs and assigns." (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxiv. pp. 411-421.)

On the 3 March, 6 Elizabeth (1563), "Thomas Hyrle, B.D., Maistere Warden and Keper of the Colledge of our Lady of Manchester within y<sup>e</sup> p<sup>y</sup>sshe church of Manchester, and his felowes chapleyns, demised to Nicholas Byron, son and heir of John Byron, of Newstead, Esq., Anthony Byron, another son of the said John Byron Esq., and James Costerdyne of Blakeley, yeoman, their executors and assigns, a messuage with divers pastures and meadows in Newton, called Travers farm, and all the lands within the Park of Clayton, in the parish of Manchester, parcel of the lordship of Newton; and another messuage in Newton, in the holding of Margaret Ogden, widow, for the term of their joint lives, and for the life of the longest liver." It was also fully agreed that if the said Thomas Hyrle "fortune or

happen att any tyme during his life to have any such ryght or tytle in and to the sayd Colledge and all the possessions and landes to the same app<sup>o</sup>teynnyng whereby he can lawfully make over the said Colledge and the possessions thereof to anie pson or psons in fee farme, or of the nature of fee farme, that then the said Thomas Hyrle couñants pñyses & grants by these psents that he and his felowes chaplens yñedly after such right shal hap to fall or come to the hands of the said Warden & Chaplains, or at any reasonable tyme duryng *his* lyfe, will seal and convey to the said Byrons and Costerdyne all such assurance in the fee farm of the lands & tent<sup>s</sup> in Clayton Park aforesaid, as they shall reasonably request, they yielding to the said Warden for y<sup>e</sup> fyne and gressome the sum of v<sup>li</sup> xiii<sup>s</sup> iv<sup>d</sup>." (*Ib.*, vol. vi. pp. 2-5.)

By a deed in the *Chetham Evidences* dated 6 October, 1574, "Thomas Herle, Clerk, M.A., Warden, Oliver Carter, Preacher, Robert Barber, and Thomas Rydson are bound in 10*l*. to John Whitworth of Newton, husb<sup>o</sup>, the *condition* being that Whitworth may peaceably enjoy the Collegiate lands within Clayton Park, in the Manor of Newton, called Scotland Crofte, leased to Sir John Byron by Warden Collier and his Fellows and Chaplains for 50 years, by Deed dated 12 Nov., 24 Henry VIII." These lands were sold by the Byrons to Humphrey Chetham, Esq., but the title was disputed by Burdett, who purchased the lands of the Collegiate Church of the Parliament, and in 1653 they were the subject of legal proceedings. The Church had a clear right to the eight acres, but apparently was robbed of it.

In the 9 Elizabeth (1566), Alexander Barlow of Barlow, Esq., as lessee of the tithes of Levenshulme, prosecuted at Lancaster Warden Herle for a breach of contract in relation thereto (Booker's *Didsbury*, p. 234); and in 1568, "Master Herle and his fellows" demised to John Barrow the tithes of hay, corn and grain in Manchester for 21 years, he paying 10*s*. a year as a quit rent.

It has been recorded of him that "when he came to that great

Benefice (Manchester), he sould all the Lands and Tithes and all other commodities belonginge (thereto), a fewe only except, and the House itselfe to the Earle of Derby (in whose hands it now is), and granted long leases of most or all the Tithes, Colledge lands and other sperituale livings to one Killigrew, and Killigrew granted them to the Queene, and she to them that are now possessed of them, to the utter overthrow of that famous rich Colledg, so that he left nothing to the mentenance of such a post as in times past had their bene kept." (*MS. Hist. Wardens, Coll. Arm.*, c. 21.)

It may be stated, in extenuation of Herle's gross sacrilege, that his proceedings arose from an impression that the College was one of the foundations which had been suppressed, and ought to have been destroyed, by the Act of Edward VI., although he appears to have forgotten that it had been re-founded by Queen Mary. There seems to be no reasonable ground to doubt that he was a Protestant, otherwise he would not have been patronized by Archbishop Parker, nor have been one of the Chaplains of Queen Elizabeth; but he neither admired the Swiss nor the Scotch Reformers, and was only a feeble supporter of the Reformed Church. Strype names that Archbishop Parker contemplated procuring for him the Bishopric of Bangor, considering that he would have little peace amongst the leading families of Manchester, who were zealous Papists, and who had a particular envy against this College, which maintained godly preachers. (Strype's *Parker*, vol. i. p. 406.)

Parker, addressing Cecil, 12 Febr., 1565-6, observes: "I hear that Diocese (Bangor) to be much out of order, both having no preaching there, and pensionary concubinary openly continued, notwithstanding liberty of marriage granted. If I thought the Queen's Majesty would allow her own Chaplain, Mr. Herle, to be placed there hereafter, I would join him with some others learned to go through the Diocese; and I think Mr. Herle to be a grave, priestly man, and should well furnish the office with *commendam* of his livings which he hath now, though he should

give over Manchester, where he now can have little rest." (Parker's *Corresp.*, p. 259, Parker Society's ed.)

It is not improbable that the Warden's alienation of the endowments of the College, rather than the opposition of Papists, led to his having "little rest," and the wonder is, that he had any at all. He failed in becoming Bishop of Bangor, but in 1567 he was collated to the 4th stall in Chester Cathedral,<sup>1</sup> and he held the vicarage of Bromsgrove, in the county of Worcester, to which he had been collated by the Dean and Chapter of that Cathedral.

Feb. 3, 1568, the Queen wrote to the Earl of Derby, the Bishop of Chester, the Sheriff of Lancashire, and others, directing them to attach such persons as, under pretence of religion, drew sundry gentlemen and other persons from their duty and allegiance. (*Dom. State Pap.*, vol. xlv., *Cal.* p. 305.)

On the 4 May, 1570, Archbishop Parker wrote to Secretary Cecil that he understood by the Warden of Manchester College,

<sup>1</sup> On the 26 June, 1583, Bp. Chaderton, during his triennial Visitation, instituted a searching examination into the state of the Cathedral of Chester and the performances of the services. It appeared in evidence tendered in the Chapter House by Mr. Robert Rogers, one of the Prebendaries, that since the 15 July, 1581, neither the Dean, Canons, nor Prebendaries, with the exception of himself, had remained upon their Prebends according to the Statutes of the Church. Himself, Mr. Nutter, and Mr. Hyde, had kept residence; but Mr. Dean, Mr. Herle, Mr. Bulkley and Mr. Yale had not done so. The fabric of the Cathedral, especially the Choir, was in decay; but the Dean and Prebends had allowed upwards of £200 for repairs, half of which had been expended, and they had arranged that £100 a year should be so appropriated, besides eight windows in the new work of the Cathedral furnished by the same. The clergy were negligent in attending the Services; Mr. Dean sometimes attended in the apparel, and so did Mr. Nutter, Mr. Hyde, and himself; but Mr. Herle, Mr. Bulkley and Mr. Yale did not. Nutter and Hyde administered and received with Rogers the Blessed Communion, but none of the rest had done so. It was also stated that if the Queen's Injunctions required *four* Services of the Canons in a year they were preached; if not *per se per alios*. The Dean had kept a worshipful house in Chester, and Nutter, Hyde and Rogers also, but none of the rest had satisfied the order. The mansion houses of the Prebendaries were in good repair, and the Cathedral was being repaired. The Petti-canons had the New Testament both in Latin and English, and conferred daily. Chapters were not kept as frequently as the Statute appointed. (Chaderton's *Regr.*)



that he was very weary of continuing that College with such incumbrance as he had thereby, and that he had no hope of being relieved hereafter of his trouble, except he betrayed the College by giving over a lease of the best land it had, and he was at that time desirous of relinquishing it to her Majesty's disposal to be converted to some College in Cambridge, who might hereafter send out some Preachers to inhabit that quarter, and also by the rest of the revenue maintain some Students. (*Parker* by Strype, vol. ii. p. 10 ; *Corresp.*, p. 365 ; Peck's *Desid. Cur.*, bk. iii. p. 16.) The good Archbishop fell into the snare, and, approving of Herle's specious scheme, urged Cecil to induce the Queen to benefit St. John's (Cecil's own College) by transferring to it the shattered endowments of Manchester. (*Parker's Corresp.*, p. 365.)

Herle's duplicity was not discovered by the Archbishop until some years afterwards, when his conduct was investigated and proved to be blameworthy. (Strype's *Parker*, vol. ii. p. 13.) Much of the treasure was found to have been wrested from the College, no less by the unscrupulous proceedings of the Warden, in conjunction with certain sceptical courtiers of the Queen, than by the Queen herself. Her cold hard hand had been terribly felt.

Mr. Aynscough says of Herle, apparently with some injustice, that "he sold all the Church land that would be purchased, and granted long leases of the tithes, and endeavoured to make away with all the revenue thereof. His way was to grant what he intended to make over to one Killigrew, a countryman of his, who made it over to the Queen, who reconveyed it to such parties as he desired." Sir Henry Killigrew, kt., was a gentleman of her Majesty's Privy Chamber, and married one of the learned daughters of Sir Anthony Coke, sister of Lady Burghley ; but I have met with none of these leases. Some of the leases made by Herle have been already referred to ; others are described as having been "for twenty-one years, after two or three lives then in being, or else for 99 years, in such ambiguous words as make it hard to know when the said 99 years commence or are to ex-

pire. Such was the lease of the tithes of Stretford, Trafford, and half Chorlton made to Sir Edward Trafford, wherein the said tithes are granted first for 21 years, and then by a new *habendum* for 21 years more, and so from 21 years to 21 years to the term of 99 years, which was found to be a lease of 99 years after 21." (*Account of the Wardens of Manchester*. 8vo. 1773.)

On the 17 Sept., 17 Elizabeth (1574), Warden Herle and the Fellows appointed, in full Chapter, Edmund Trafford of Trafford, Esq., Steward of the College with a salary of 40s. a year. The autograph of the Warden is bold and legible. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xxv. p. 164.)

He has left a cheerless account of the social state of Manchester during his Wardenship, in a letter to the Lord Treasurer Burghley, dated 27 April, 1574, and printed by Strype in his *Life of Abp. Parker*, vol. iii. pp. 135-7.

Almyghty God preserve your good Lordschyp in myche felycyte.

Plesyth your honourable Lordschyp to understand, that wher of late my lordes grace of York and the Commissyoners there at the Queen's Majesties commandement have stablyshyd and orderyd the college of Manchester, and placyd both honest and learynd men there. And the landes and revenuys they have so orderyd as ys most nessysary for the hospilalyte and relyving powr ther. Which doying of thers of lykelyhod hath displesyd some men : for on Mydlent Sunday last, as our prechyr (who ys a bachelor of Divynyte) was rydyng to preche at one of the chappels of the paryshe, beyng distant from the parysche church iiii mylys, one Wyllyem Smygth of the parysche of Manchester met hym by the way, and takyng hys horse by the brydell, drew hys dagger, and bet and woundyd hym wyth iii wondes ; and iff his horse had not brokyn owte of the hande of the sayd Smygth, of lykelyhode he had sclayne hym. Desyryng therefore your lordschyp to help us, that quyetyly we may ther doo our funcyon and offyce, or else yf we shall be thys beaten, as before thys tyme, and now our precher ys, we schal never be able to lyve with them, excepte they may be ponyshyd to the terrowre of others.

They have also causyd one Thomas Staunton, atourney of the dewchy of Lancaster, to enter into certayn landes of the collage callyd *Obyte*

*Landes*, and wold have hyt consolyd [concealed] landes, and [yet] hyt ys contaynyd within our letters patentes of our foundation. And yf the landes be takyn from us, we be not able to meyntayne the cumpany. They have also takyn away al our evydences and letters patentes ; and of ornamentes and plate as myche as ys worthe five hundred markes, wyche plate ys the Queenes Majestye's. And althoughe we have prove to whose handes hyt came after the deprivation of my predissessor, yet ys hyt kepte from us. Wherefore we request your honour to help our pour collage, as before this tyme ye have holpyn us (Almighty God reward you for hyt), or els the collage had byn utterly dystroyde and spoyled. Whereas now hyt wold be able to mayntayne lernyd men to the help of that cuntrye. And this ye bynd us to be your dayly oratowrs, and also of all those that help to the ayde therof. Thys levyng your honour to Almighty God,

By your lordschypps ever to commond

THOMAS HERLE, Wardyn of Manchester.

Change of opinion is not always disputable, but when personal advantages, either present or prospective, appear to dictate the change, all casuists must condemn it—even Jesuits themselves. Warden Herle's altered opinions were not the result of principle or of sincere conviction, but of what Hollinworth describes as private selfishness. It was indecent in him to attempt to hoodwink the Archbishop, and avaricious to attempt to enrich himself again by other spoils. It seems probable that Oliver Carter, a high principled and independent member of the Collegiate body, had at this time brought the dark features of the case under the notice of Dean Nowell, whose honesty of purpose was above suspicion, and whose influence was exerted, and not unsuccessfully, to preserve the endowments of the College from further alienation. (Churton's *Nowell*, p. 253.)

It is clear that Herle in writing to Lord Burghley spoke against all his own previous acts, and denounced the evil system by which he had obtained his nefarious ends, and it is at least satisfactory to find that this dignified iconoclast and Church robber had the decency not to attempt a vindication of his gross

depredations. But the evil had not worked well for him, and his rapacity, like the horse-leech, was still crying, give! give! The Church, or in other words the public, had been injured, and the individual who had sanctioned the spoliation not much benefited. His proceedings had been so unjustifiable, and his unpopularity was so great in Manchester, that the Queen, in order to appease the public and to remove the general imputation that she had connived at the spoliation of the College revenues, deprived Warden Herle, and those Fellows who had acted in concert with him, about 1575. Herle had a pension of 20*l.* per annum for life settled upon him, and the Queen re-founded the College. The pension was not enjoyed without being grudged. An attempt was made to deprive him of it, and it is not improbable that Warden Chaderton was a consenting party to this measure; but he was directed by Sir Francis Walsingham, on the 31 July, 1580, to let "Herle, the old Warden, enjoy his pension. I see soe little hope," observed the Secretary, "that he will doe good anie where, that for the benefit of the Church generallie I think it less hurt that he enjoy the pencion from that College, than by easing that house thereof to place him in such a *Benefit* as he is utterlie unable to instruct." (Peck's *Desid. Cur.*, lib. iii. p. 17.) He survived his deprivation, or, according to Assheton's *M.S.*, his resignation, many years, and vacated the Vicarage of Bromsgrove and the Stalls at Worcester and Chester by death in 1587. (Bishop Chaderton's *Reg. Chester*; Le Neve.)

1578, May 15, an award was given by Lord Burghley and Sir Francis Walsingham for the settlement of the dispute between Thomas Herell, Warden of Manchester College, and Alexander Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, in behalf of the said College of Manchester. (Vol. cxxiv. *Cal. State Papers, Dom.*, 1547-1580, p. 590.)

Archdeacon Churton observes that Herle appears to have been an instance (such, it is hoped, as is not often found) of a person who passed his earlier and middle days with integrity and repute, and forfeited his good name by his after conduct.

The first considerable preferment which he enjoyed seems to have called forth a latent spirit of rapacity, and some years after his ejection, as has been noticed, he is mentioned as one of whom there was no hope of his doing good anywhere. (Churton's *Life of Nowell*, p. 256.)

No arms are assigned to this Warden in the *MS. History of the Wardens* in the College of Arms, but his father's arms were *arg.* a fesse *gules* between three shovellers, *ppr.* The crest, a lion passant.

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JOHN WOLTON was son of John Wolton by Isabella his wife, daughter of John Nowell of Read Hall, Esq., and Elizabeth Kay of Rochdale, his second wife. Bishop Godwin, Wolton's son-in-law, states that this excellent man was born at Wigan, and all his biographers have considered the statement accurate ; but Dr. Whitaker of the Holme, jealous of the honour of Whalley, long was impressed with the conviction that Wolton was a native of that place. His *MS.* notes on the subject (*Lanc. MSS.* vol. xvi. p. 460) induced him to conclude from the Parish Registers and other sources that such was the fact. He found the burial of "Isabella, uxor Johs Woulton, 22 Jan. 1567," whom he concluded to be the Bishop's mother ; and as the interment of her husband did not appear the Doctor inferred that he had died at Wigan—from whence his widow naturally returned to her friends at Whalley after his decease. This opinion was afterwards confirmed. It is proved to a certainty that Bishop Wolton was born at Whalley, for in the Register of Grindal, quoted by Strype in that prelate's life (8vo. p. 58), and containing the record of one of his earliest London ordinations, April 25, 1560, *John Wolton*, æt. 23, then ordained Deacon (in his *Hist. Whalley* Dr. W. says *Priest*, 3rd ed. p. 490), styles himself to have been "*born at Whalley*, in Cheshire," meaning Diocese. Dr. Whitaker rightly observes, "A man is surely a much better authority as to the place of his own birth than his son-in-law." (*Lanc. MSS., ibid.*) The name is variously spelt

Woulton, Wolton, and Walton—the latter an old and wealthy family long seated at Marsden Hall, in the ancient parish of Whalley. No attempt has been made to deduce this Bishop from that house, and the arms are not the same.

He was born about the year 1535, being aged 18 when he was entered a student of Brasenose College, Oxford, on the 26th October, 1553. His residence was of short duration, as in 1554-5, being a young man of pious and exemplary life, he accompanied or fled to his "thrice reverend Uncle," Alexander Nowell, and other exiles, into Germany, being obnoxious to the ruling powers, as well on account of his family connections as of his impressive earnestness and boldness in promoting the Reformation of the Church. It is clear that he had no wish either to endure the miseries of imprisonment, or the horrors of burning, to please a bigoted Queen or a sanguinary Parliament. (Churton's *Nowell*, p. 257; *Tanner MS.* p. 159.) In 1555 he supplicated the University for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, but it does not appear that he was admitted. (Wood's *Athen. Oxon.*, vol. i. 600.

On the accession of Queen Elizabeth he returned to England, and in 1560 he was made Canon Residentary of Exeter Cathedral, and not being afflicted about rites and ceremonies was a useful preacher. He read a divinity lecture twice a week, and twice every Lord's day preached. During the plague he with one more remained in the city, and comforted the afflicted by public and private ministrations. (Churton's *Nowell*, p. 257; Strype's *Whitgift*, 8vo. vol. i. p. 419.) In 1563, being B.A., he was admitted to the Rectory of Spaxton, near Bridgewater, on the nomination of a private friend.

There can be little doubt that it was through his Uncle Nowell's influence that he was appointed in 1575 Warden of Manchester, and in the May of that year, being Warden, he supplicated the University of Oxford as "John Wolton, a Minister of God's Word, and sometimes a Student of this University," to be licensed to proceed in Divinity, but it does

not appear whether the petition was granted. (Wood's *Athen. Oxon.*, vol. i. 600.) He is, however, styled B.D. in 1578. He does not appear to have resided in Manchester, and probably had a dispensation to exempt him from that duty until the new charter was granted by Queen Elizabeth in 1578, when he, being named the first Warden, would become amenable to the statute. But even then he would not be able to exercise much influence over the inhabitants, nor would they be often edified by his public ministrations, although he was a learned and discreet divine, and not overburdened with stalls, benefices, pensions, and gifts. His office was little better than a sinecure, and the wounds inflicted by the Court and Herle were scarcely cicatrised, notwithstanding the new foundation, so that his appointment and non-residence would only revive the recollections of the worldliness, inconsistencies, and hypocrisies of some of the latter Wardens. It might have been supposed that Manchester would have had associations and attractions for him of the most interesting character, as he was surrounded by his mother's respectable relatives, the Nowells of Read, the Towneleys of Towneley (albeit of another creed), the Holtes of Ashworth, the Asshetons of Middleton, the Whitakers of Holme, and the Hamonds of Whalley. Hollinworth is in error when he states that Warden Wolton "continued scarce two years in his Wardenship" when he became Bishop of Exeter. (*Man-cuniensis*, p. 86.) He was styled Warden in 1575 (Wood, as before, on the authority<sup>1</sup> of an old Register in Brasenose College, folio 90 *b*); and he was appointed by the Queen to the See of Exeter in 1579,<sup>2</sup> being elected on the 2nd July, confirmed on the 24th, and consecrated on the 2nd August in that year. (Le Neve, vol. i. p. 379); but Hollinworth apparently dates his appointment as Warden from the granting of the new Charter.

<sup>1</sup> Cole corrected this date to 1579.—ED.

<sup>2</sup> On the 11 Oct., 1578, Bridget, Countess of Bedford, wrote to Burghley recommending that Mr. Woolton, a Canon of Exeter, might for his learning and ability be appointed Bishop of Exeter. (*Dom. State Pap.*, vol. cxxvi. No. 4; *Cal.*, p. 601.)

The Warden left behind him at Manchester the character of being a "pious, painfull, skilfull Divine" (*Mancun.*, p. 86), and he became a vigilant and exemplary Bishop. (Churton's *Nowell*, p. 258.) In 1585 his strictness in his Diocese led some of his enemies to present certain accusations against him to Archbishop Whitgift, but he nobly vindicated himself, proved the charges to be malicious and unfounded, and annihilated his unscrupulous defamers. (Strype's *Whitgift*, 8vo., App. pp. 90, 92 ; vol. iii. p. 153 ; bk. iii. No. xxii.) There is no doubt that he was an earnest asserter of Conformity, and thoroughly understood the bearings of the popular controversies affecting the English Church. After his death his proceedings in his diocese were more favourably regarded, and it was found and believed that his counsel to every true Churchman had been

Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's,  
And Truth's, and God's.

His death was singularly tranquil, and he appears, like La Boétie and some others, to have surmounted all the usual attendants of dissolution. Bishop Godwin, who married one of his daughters, and seems to have been with him in his last moments, says that he had the courage and presence of mind to dictate letters not two hours before his death on subjects of importance, full of the piety of a man in the vigour of life. Being cautioned by his attendants, who saw death approaching, he applied the saying of Vespasian that "a Bishop ought to die upon his legs," which in him, as before in the Emperor, was literally verified, for as he was supported across the room (his complaint being an asthma) he suddenly expired in the arms of his attendants on the 13th March, 1593-4, in the 59th year of his age. Such a death was a fitting sequel of a holy life, and his diocese would feel edified by such a noble example of Christian faith and resignation.

The epitaph on his monument in Exeter Cathedral, where he was buried, was written by his eldest son, John Wolton, who



was a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford, and a graduate in Physic, and is given at length in Polwhele's *Devon.*, vol. ii. p. 7.

Hic jacet—hand jacet hic, tumulo quam credis inesse,  
 Terra nequit tantum contumulare virum.  
 Ingenium, genium, mores, pietatis honores,  
 Eloquiumque pium busta perusta tegent?  
 Falleris, Ultonus tonus est, sic spiritus. “Unde  
 Hoc nosti?” Tonus est cælicus orbe tonans.

The Bishop does not appear to have published anything after his advancement to the See of Exeter, but previously he had composed many theological tracts, monitory and practical, which seem all to have been printed in the years 1576 and 1577, during the time he was Warden of Manchester. These are—1. *Anatomie of the whole Man.* 2. *Christian Manuell.* 3. *Of Conscience.* 4. *Armour of Proofs.* 5. *Immortalitie of the Soule.* 6. *Fortresse of the Faithfull.* 7. *David's Chain* (dedicated to the Earl of Bedford, his patron). (Churton's *Nowell*, p. 257, note.) Wood gives a full catalogue of his writings, vol. i. 601, and also Ames, pp. 936, 1133.

Bishop Wolton's Will is in the Prerogative Office, London. (Dixey, p. 37.)

His son-in-law, Mr. Thomas Barrett, was instituted Archdeacon of Exeter on the presentation of James Wolton, Gent., and William Brewton, of Exeter, Notary public, 14 Jan., 1582-3, and *ob.* 25 Nov., 1633, *æt.* 82. (Le Neve, vol. i. p. 395.)

By a curious blunder in Dugdale's copy of the List of Wardens the arms of the See of Exeter are placed on the *sinister* side. There is no pedigree nor arms of this family in the Heralds' College. The arms assigned to him in the Lancashire Ordinary are *arg.* a chevron between three falcons' heads erased, *sable*, beaked *or* (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xii). But Greswell [following Izacke] says that the Bishop used for arms “a lion ramp. *or*, standing to a saltier engr. *gu.* Motto, *Spernit pericula virtus.*” (*MSS. Hist. Manchester Coll. in Chetham Libr.*) [*Harl. MS.*, 5827, quoted in Bedford's *Blazon*, p. 45, says: “He gave for his arms his mother's coate, *A.*, three standing cups covered *S.*”]

[Wolton's preferments in his own diocese were as follows : 15 Aug., 1561, instituted to Sampford Peveril, N.E. Devon, and afterwards to Whimble, E. Devon ; 22 March, 1565, Bishop Alley collated him to a Canonry and prebend in the Cathedral ; 4 May, 1570, Vicar of Braunton, near Barnstaple, presented by Abp. Parker ; 15 Oct., 1573, Rector of Kenn, E. Devon ; 20 Oct., 1581, Rector of Haccombe, S.E. Devon, presented by the Carew family. The register of St. Mary Major, Exeter, records the baptism of Sarah Woulton, daughter of Mr. Woulton, Clarke. (Oliver's *Bps. of Exeter*.)]

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WILLIAM CHADERTON was the second son of Edmund Chaderton of Nuthurst, in the Parish of Manchester, Gent., and of his wife Margery Cliffe of Cheshire, niece of Warden Cliffe (*Lanc. Visit.*, 1567), and grandson of Geoffrey Chaderton, descended from Richard de Trafford, living in 1255, whose second son, Geoffrey de Chaderton, received from his father the vill of Chaderton, and from whose younger son, Geoffrey, this house descended. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xiv. p. 152.) His father was the head of an ancient and well connected if not very opulent family, and his two sons, George and William—the latter being born about 1538 or 1540—were probably educated at the Grammar School of Manchester. William Chaderton was entered a student of Queen's College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. 1557, M.A. 1561. He was afterwards elected Fellow of Christ's College, and was there contemporary with his learned and distinguished kinsman, Lawrence Chaderton of the Lees, near Oldham, and like him early embraced moderate Puritanical views. In 1567 he proceeded Bachelor of Divinity, and was elected the Lady Margaret's Professor, being Whitgift's successor in the office (*Le Neve*, vol. iii. p. 656), and in the following year he commenced Doctor of Divinity, and was elected Master of Queen's College. On the 31st May, 1568, he was admitted Archdeacon of York. (*Ib.*, vol. iii. p. 134.) Probably through the influence of his friend Fleetwood, Recorder of

London, he was in the same year appointed Chaplain to Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, to whom he was indebted for his subsequent advancement in the Church. Being aware that the marriage of Ecclesiastics was not viewed very favourably at Court, and wishing to conciliate and obtain the consent of his patron on his intended marriage, he addressed a letter to him on the subject, requesting his advice. The Earl, in his reply, dated 5 June, 1569, sensibly informed his chaplain that "the matter cencerneth, in all persons, the partie himself chieflie that meaneth to enter into the state of matrimonie; and therefore yt behoveth him speciallie to bee carefull what choyce he maketh." As the Earl deemed it to be both "lawfule and convenient for such as cannot otherwyse conteyne," and as "the consent generallie" of his "lovinge Frend and Master" was had and obtained (Peck's *Desiderata Curiosa*, vol. i. lib. iii. p. 3), the President of Queen's proceeded to marry Katherine, daughter of John Revell, Esq., of London,<sup>1</sup> by whom he had an only child, Joan, the first wife of Sir Richard Brooke of Norton, in Cheshire. For a singular account of this daughter see *Stanley Papers*, part 2, p. 135, note. In this year he resigned the Lady Margaret's Professorship, being succeeded by Cartwright (Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 654), and was elected Regius Professor of Divinity, the Vice Chancellor (Dr. May), Perne (Master of Peter House), Hawford (Master of Christ's College), Harvey (Master of Trinity Hall), Ithell (Master of Jesus College), Young (Master of Pembroke Hall), and Leeds (Master of Clare Hall), applying to the Chancellor of the University (Cecil) in his favour in the following terms:—"That Master Doctor Whitgift was minded by his Honour's licence and grant, for divers and necessary considerations, to resign and give over his Lecture in Divinity. And forasmuch as it was very expedient in the behalf of their University

<sup>1</sup> Edward Revell of Carnfield, in the County of Derby, Gent., married Ann, daughter of Ralph Cudworth of Werneth in Oldham, by his wife Jane, daughter of Arthur Asheton of Rochdale. (*Temp. Queen Elis.*) Mrs. Revell was Aunt of Ralph Cudworth, D.D. (*Lanc. MSS.*, vol. xii. "Cudworth.")

and the students in that faculty, to have a learned, godly, and painful man to supply the place with like diligence, they thought good to recommend unto his Honour Master Doctor Chaderton, who had, with commendation, by the space almost of three years, read the Lecture founded by the Lady Margaret, as one most fit, in their judgments, to succeed in his place: most humbly desiring his Honour to certify as well the said Master Doctor Whitgift, as also others, the Masters of Colleges there in Cambridge, of his pleasure and liking therein; that they might all frame themselves accordingly: and thus wishing him health, with the aid of Almighty God in all his affairs, took their leaves." (Strype's *Whitgift*, 8vo., vol. i. p. 29.)

Almost immediately after his elevation to the Divinity Chair he joined with Whitgift, Maye, Hawford, and Perne—the last having conformed on the accession of Elizabeth, and retained his Mastership—in recommending (unsuccessfully) Dr. Roger Fulke to succeed Dr. Richard Longworth, a native of Bolton-le-Moors, Master of St. John's College, and took part with the other heads of houses against Cartwright, the Lady Margaret's Reader, who, after his suspension in 1570 for strange doctrines and prejudices against the Episcopal government and liturgy established at the Reformation, was expelled in the same year on a representation to the Chancellor (Cecil), drawn up and signed by them for that purpose.

In December, 1569, he voluntarily provided and sent a horseman to oppose the northern rebels, and offered his "body and goods to be spent in the Queen's quarrel" (Peck, lib. iii. p. 4), a loyal declaration acknowledged by Leycester, and duly appreciated by the Queen.

In the next year he addressed a letter to the Chancellor Cecil, pressing the reformation of certain libels, seditions, rebellious quarrels, and strifes in the University, representing that they endangered not only the good government of the University, but the safety of the realm. The schisms of the times were deeply deplored by him, and he seems to have considered that

they would be well suppressed by the authority of the Queen's Privy Council. At this time Sir John Harrington speaks of him as "not affecting any sour or austere fashion either in teaching or government," and as he wrote from personal knowledge, being his contemporary, and of the same college, his testimony may be deemed conclusive, although this merit was probably more conspicuous in Chaderton in the early than in the latter part of his life. He was always a dogmatic Puritan, and committed to the theology of that school, and not disposed to regard Popery with any more favour than it received from the Queen.

He was installed Prebendary of Fenton, in the Cathedral of York, on the 16 Febr., 1573-4, and vacated his Stall in 1579. (Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 185.) He was appointed Canon of the fourth Stall in Westminster by patent 5 Nov., 1576, and installed on the 17th December following (*ibid*, p. 353), which he vacated about 1579. It does not appear that he was ever a Prebendary of Southwell. (Baines' *Lanc.*, old ed., vol. ii. p. 358.)

In 1574 Dr. Chaderton preached a Sermon at St. Paul's Cross against a pernicious sect then prevailing, called the Family of Love, and was supposed to reflect upon Cox, Bishop of Ely, at that time under a cloud at Court in consequence of his steady refusal to give up part of his revenues to certain favourites of the Queen. It is said that the Bishop's firmness was supposed to involve his deprivation, and that Chaderton hoped to succeed him at Ely. He was, however, doomed to disappointment, and his imprudent, if not dishonourable conduct, will always remain a blot on his memory.

Archbishop Parker, in his account of this business to Grindall, Archbishop of York, said "That he had searched out this report so confidently told in the pulpit concerning the sectaries in that diocese, and had found the news enviously uttered, and that Chaderton talked his pleasure of the Bishoprick of Ely which he looked to enjoy, and had laid wagers of the present Bishop's deprivation as he was informed, and that he would give Somersham House (a seat of that Bishop's) to him who sued for

it (*i.e.*, the Lord North, if I mistake not), which this man, the present Bishop, would not do, and, therefore, it had brought him much unpleasant report." (Parker's *Corresp.*, p. 474.) It does not appear from Parker's letter to Grindall that he who "*chattered at the Cross openly*" was *Chaderton*, although Strype fixes upon him, and the Abp. had been informed that "this Chatterer" had reported "very ill words" of himself. (*Ib.*, p. 475.) Parker had a special regard for the Bishop of Ely, and his son had married the Bishop's daughter, so that the prevalence of "a mighty deformity" in the shape of schism in the diocese of Ely was not unlikely to have been known to the Archbishop had it existed. Nor is it improbable, but on the contrary exceedingly probable, that the allegations against Chaderton's sermon, his injurious reflections upon Cox, and his own selfish projects, were nothing more than "displeasant reports" which had been conveyed to the too ready ear of the Archbishop by some enemy of Chaderton. In an age of spies and informers he must have been a most indiscreet man to have committed himself in a manner so gross and objectionable, as the Archbishop supposed him to be, at least, capable of doing.

Chaderton was the valued friend of Archbishop Sandys, who was the principal mourner at Archbishop Parker's funeral (*Life of Sandys*, Parker Society), and his merits were recognized and honoured by Henry, Earl of Derby, and by Dudley, Earl of Leicester. (See Peck's *Desid. Curiosa*, vol. i. lib. iii. *passim*.) He was also much beloved by the students in the University for his conciliatory disposition and general courtesy.

In 1576, the Queen wishing to promote Thomas Hughes to a Fellowship of Queen's College, commanded Chaderton, the Master, and the Senior Fellows, to elect him, her Majesty dispensing with the Statutes, and if they murmured requiring them to inform her of their reasons, *i.e.* for resisting the will of an almost absolute Monarch. (Peck's *Desid. Curiosa*, lib. iii. p. 5.) This was doubtless an effectual argument in favour of the election of the Queen's nominee.

His devoted adherence to the Court and the Earl of Leicester was at length rewarded with the dignity which appears to have been an object of his ambition. On the 8 Nov. 1579 he was consecrated Bishop of Chester in the Church of St. Gregory, near St. Paul's, London (Le Neve, vol. iii. p. 259), the see having been vacant since the death of Bishop Downham in November, 1577.<sup>1</sup> Edwin (Sandys), Archbishop of York, confirmed him in the see, and "Letters of Assistance" were granted by the Archbishop to Chaderton, confirming him in the temporalities, 14 Dec. 22 Eliz. (1579). (Chaderton's *Leiger*, Chester.) In the same year he had accepted the Wardenship of Manchester (Dr. Hibbert-Ware, vol. i. p. 101), and his dispensation to hold it *in commendam* bears date (according to Baines, vol. ii. p. 359) the 5th June, 1579. This date is not exact, as Wolton was Warden at that time. (See *ante*.)

The year following his consecration he was appointed a member of the Great Ecclesiastical Commission for the North of England, and his powers were chiefly exercised in Lancashire and Cheshire. As his personal friend and counsellor, Henry, Earl of Derby, resided at his house, Alport Park, near Manchester, the Bishop also fixed his residence in the town, and their mutual object appears to have been to advance the doctrines and principles of the Reformation in conjunction with the Queen

<sup>1</sup> On the 14 July, 1578, David Yate wrote to Burghley (?) requesting that the free election of Master of Queen's College, Cambridge, might be permitted to the Fellows if Dr. Chaderton, the present Master, is made Bishop of Chester. The letter is in Latin. (*Dom. State Pap.*, vol. cxxv. p. 26; *Cal.*, 1547, 1580.) On the 28 Sept., in the same year, Dean Nowell appears to have thought that Dr. Bullingham would be preferred to the Bishoprick, and asked Burghley for the living of Wythingdon, in Gloucestershire, for Mr. William Whytaker, of Trinity College, Cambridge, should it be vacated by such promotion. (*Ibid.*, p. 74.)

<sup>2</sup> Aug. 9, 1579, Dr. Thos. Byng, Vice Chancellor of Cambridge wrote to Burghley stating that Mr. Bennett and Mr. Chaderton had been selected to preach before him and the Sheriff at the Northampton Assizes. (Vol. cxxxi. p. 58; *Ibid.*, p. 629.)

After Chaderton's consecration he wrote from Prescot Oct. 4, 1580, to Sir Francis Walsingham, requesting the release of his first fruits, and commending the Earl of Derby. (*Ibid.*, vol. cxliii. p. 7; *Cal.*, p. 600.)

and her Privy Council. This was a labour of love to Chaderton, although the recusants did not so regard it. They were apprehended, examined, fined, and imprisoned; the children of some of the more distinguished and wealthy Roman Catholics were removed from the parental protection, and placed under the immediate care and instruction of Chaderton, and all efforts, wise and unwise, were made to inculcate loyalty to the Queen and devotedness to the English Church. Fines and imprisonments were not the arguments which prevailed with these stout adherents of Rome. At this very juncture Fathers Campian and Parsons, two of the most learned and active of their number, selected Lancashire as the scene of their labours, and in 1580 these Jesuits were entertained at the houses of several eminent Roman Catholics in the county, amongst others at Blackrod by Mr. Laurence Vaux, the late Warden of Manchester, and at or near Rossall by Mrs. Allen, the widow of the Cardinal's brother. The labours of the Bishop of Chester grew so onerous that Mr. Holland of Denton, and Mr. Hopwood of Hopwood, two earnest Puritans, were associated with him and Lord Derby in the State prosecutions, and they exercised the duties which devolved upon them with so much rigour that the Earl and Bishop received the Royal thanks, and on 13 Jan., 1580, the Queen issued her Warrant to discharge the latter from attending his Parliamentary duties in order that he might be more at leisure to rule his diocese. (Peck, vol. i. lib. iii. p. 26.)

The calumnious charge that Chaderton had clandestinely withheld and appropriated to his own use the sum of £3,000 of the Fines levied on recusants, was examined by the Privy Council, and declared to be entirely false, and there seems to have been no foundation for the suspicions of the Government, or for the shyness of the Earl of Derby towards him. The fines had been small, and did not amount in value to the expectation of the Queen's Council. The Bishop received the thanks of the Queen for his past conduct, accompanied with a request to persevere in the same course. The political views and practices of the



recusants excited the alarm of the Government, who instructed the Commissioners to handle Popery roughly, which they were well disposed to do, although we hope that some at least of them were not averse to the Roman Catholics, and it must not be forgotten that these Commissioners employed able men to bear the intellectual fatigue of wrestling with error. Force, however, was employed. This was a grave error; but such was the spirit of the age, and no man suspected his own opinions or questioned his own judgment when they were brought to bear against his fellow men. The Roman Catholics had taken the initiative, and were quite ready to persecute all who differed from them. Dodd, the Roman Catholic historian, says that "Dr. Chaderton gave orders to the Clergy of Manchester to read prayers in the apartments where the prisoners are lodged, especially at meal times. The more scrupulous chose rather to be deprived of their food than endanger the health of their souls by taking in a nourishment, as they conjectured, to poison their better part." This simple act, which seems to have been merely a sort of grace or thanksgiving before and after meals, and a proof of Chaderton's benevolence and kindness, was construed to disguise mere special objects, and to indicate a design to undermine the faith of the Roman Catholic prisoners. That he sought and desired their conversion from Popery is indisputable, but that there was any such attempt in this act seems questionable. He was, however, indefatigable in his devotion and single-hearted in the service of his Divine Master, but he had, and knew that he had, subtle opponents and keen rivals to combat, and there seems to be no reason to doubt that he met them generally with forbearance, and overcame, if he did overcome them, with the lawful weapons of truth and charity. It is certain that his proceedings were appreciated in high quarters, so that we do not wonder to find him falling under the Horatian principle, "laudatur ab his, culpatur ab illis." Bell, one of the sturdy Jesuits priests who was executed for treason at Lancaster, 20 April, 1584, and who ought perhaps to have been removed from his cell to an asylum, but

certainly not to the scaffold, complained bitterly of Chaderton as a theologian more than as a politician, and described him as "a false and cruel Bishop, and a Calvinist," an assertion in character with the man who afterwards conspired with Campian and others to dethrone the Queen on the plea of her illegitimacy, and to effect her murder as an excommunicated heretic. Although Hume is just in his remark that all these proceedings were "suited to the severe character of the Queen, and to the persecuting spirit of the age," it is obvious that many of the recusants were themselves humble imitators of the intolerant persecutors of the last reign, and that some of their acts smelt strongly of the faggot, whilst their multifarious plots against the Queen, and seditious practices, will account for many of the State prosecutions. Their conduct was bad, and their principles were indefensible, but we must award them the credit of being in earnest, and of feeling the importance of the great subjects which they maintained with so much fervour and constancy.

Chaderton was a great patron of a species of religious worship in private houses, known as Prophesyings, introduced by the Puritans, and having for their principal object the refutation of Popery by zealous and learned ministers. There is no reason to suppose that these were "academies of fanaticism," as they are superciliously termed by Hume, but on the contrary useful and sound "schools of the prophets," and much needed at that time in Lancashire. Public opinion was, however, divided on the subject of their utility, and on the 2 May, 1581, Archbishop Sandys writing to Chaderton observed, "My Lorde, yow are noted to yelde to much to general fastings, all the Daie preachinge and prayinge . . . there lurketh matter under that pretended Pietie. The Devil is craftie, and the younge Ministers of these oure tymes grow madde." (Peck, vol. i. lib. iii. p. 29.) The Archbishop calls this "private advice," but it could hardly be agreeable to Chaderton, surrounded by Papists and Puritans, the former profanely saying that the "heathen raged, and the Protestant people took counsel against Catholics to root them

